### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE INTER-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

DATE:

August 28, 2020

Andrew O'Sullivan

Wetlands Program Manager

AT (OFFICE): Department of

Transportation

**Dredge & Fill Application** SUBJECT

Bureau of

Pittsfield, M316-3

Environment

Karl Benedict, Public Works Permitting Officer TO

> New Hampshire Wetlands Bureau 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095

Forwarded herewith is the application package prepared by NH DOT District 3 for the subject minimum impact project. This project is classified as minimum per Env-Wt 407.03(a); impacting < 3.000 SF of palustrine wetlands. The project is located along NH Route 107 in the Town of Pittsfield, NH. The proposed work consists of replacing a collapsed 18" culvert that equalized the elevation of water between the fire pond associated with the town's transfer station and the wetland located to the west of the road. The project also includes raising the roadway profile sage by 1.0' to improve the geometry of the road through this corridor. The overall purpose of this project is to improve safety along this section of the road corridor.

NHDOT reviewed the project with the town and town conservation commission. Both the town and conservation commission are in support of the project and waived their rights to intervene. (See page 8 of the application form). Therefore, NHDOT has submitted this permit application as a minimum expedited project. This work is of high importance to complete this year in order to avoid another winter season.

This project was reviewed at the Natural Resource Agency Coordination Meeting on April 15, 2020. A copy of the minutes has been included with this application package. A copy of this application and plans can be accessed on the Departments website via the following link: http://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/environment/units/program-management/wetland-applications.htm. NHDOT also coordinated with DES via email on April 30th, May 6th, and August 4th to coordinate on the wetland complex to the west of the NH Route 107. Records of the email correspondence and associated materials are included with the application submittal.

NHDOT anticipates that this project will be reviewed by the Army Corp of Engineers through the State Programmatic General Permit process. A copy of the application has been sent to the Army Corp of Engineers.

Mitigation was determined to not be triggered by the proposed impacts and therefore is not required.

The lead people to contact for this project are Samantha Fifield, District 3 (524-6667 or Samantha.Fifield@dot.nh.gov) or Sarah Large, Wetlands Program Analyst, Bureau of Environment (271-3226 or Sarah.Large@dot.nh.gov).

A payment voucher has been processed for this application (Voucher #617506) in the amount of \$400.

If and when this application meets with the approval of the Bureau, please send the permit directly to Andrew O'Sullivan, Wetlands Program Manager, Bureau of Environment.

AMO:sel

**BOE** Original

Town of Pittsfield (4 copies via certified mail)

David Trubey, NH Division of Historic Resources (Cultural Review Within)

**Bureau of Construction** 

Carol Henderson, NH Fish & Game (via electronic notification)

Maria Tur, US Fish & Wildlife (via electronic notification)

Beth Alafat & Jeanie Brochi, US Environmental Protection Agency (via electronic notification)

Michael Hicks & Rick Kristoff, US Army Corp of Engineers (via electronic notification)

Kevin Nyhan, BOE (via electronic notification)

Samantha Fifield, District 3 (via electronic notification)



### EXPEDITED (EXP) MINIMUM IMPACT WETLANDS PERMIT APPLICATION

### Water Division/Land Resources Management Wetlands Bureau





File No.:

RSA/Rule: RSA 482-A/Env-Wt 100-900

**APPLICANT'S NAME: New Hampshire Department of Transportation** 

Administrative Use Only	Administrative Use Only	Administrative Use Only	Check No.: Amount:	
		SECTION 1 - CONCURRENT PRO If the applicant is not requesting	CESSING OF RELATED SHORELA g concurrent processing, pleas	AND/WETLANDS PERMIT AND PROCEED to Section 2.
Is the proposed project eligible shoreland/wetlands permit app to Section 2 (the files will not b	for the optional concurrent prolications (Env-Wt 313.05(d))?	ocessing of related	proceed Yes No	
By signing this form and initialing of related shoreland/wetlands applications with a request to p	ng this section, the applicant is permit applications and unders	stands that concurrently filing	cessing ng the	
A waiver by the applicant of different for each permit pro	the shorter time frame, if appopram under the 2 statutes and	lication processing timeline d their implementing rules;	s are Initials: and	
<ul> <li>An agreement by the applications under either or both statute processed together.</li> </ul>	ant that any request for additions in a shall affect the review timefron	onal information by the dep rame of both applications be	artment Initials: eing	
SECTION 2 - REQUIRED PLANNI Please use the Wetland Permit features such as: priority resour designated prime wetlands.	Planning Tool (WPPT) or any of	ther database or source to a	ssist in identifying key	
Step 1: A certified wetland scier functions of each wetland, unle	ntist must delineate and classifi ss the exceptions listed in Env-	y all wetlands and identify t -Wt 306.05(a)(1) are met (E	the predominant resource	
Step 2: Determine whether the s (Env-Wt 306.05(a)(2)):				
Does the property contain are species? Please use the Natur	ny documented occurrences of pi ral Heritage Bureau (NHB) DataC	rotected species or habitat fo heck Tool to make this deterr	r such nination. Yes 🔀 No	
2. Is the property a bog? Pleas	se use the WPPT "Peatland" la any other database or source.	yer (under the PRA module	for Yes 🛛 No	

3. Is the property a floodplain wetland contiguous to a tier 3 or higher watercourse? Please use the WPPT "Floodplain Wetlands Adjacent to Tier 3 Streams" layer (under PRA module) or any other database or source.	Yes 🛛 No
4. Is the property a designated prime wetland or a duly-established 100-foot buffer? Please use the WPPT "Prime Wetlands" layers (under PRA module) or any other database or source.	Yes 🛛 No
5. Is the property a sand dune, tidal wetland, tidal water, or undeveloped tidal buffer zone? Please use the WPPT "Coastal" layers module and PRA module or any other database or source.	Yes No
Step 3: For coastal projects that are subject to Env-Wt 600, please attach the Vulnerability Assessr (Env-Wt 603.05) and conduct the data screening required by Env-Wt 603.03.	nent
Step 4: Determine whether the following apply to the subject property (Env-Wt 306.05(a)(4); RSA	482-A:3, I(d)(2)):
1. Is the property within a Local River Management Advisory Committee (LAC) jurisdiction?	
If yes, please provide the following information:	
• The project is within ¼ mile of:	Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>A copy of the application was sent to the LAC on Month: Day: Year: Year: N/A (Env-Wt 311.01(e))</li> </ul>	
2. Is the property within or does it contain any areas that are subject to time-of-year restrictions under Env-Wt 307?	S
Step 5: For stream crossing projects: what is the size of the watershed (Env-Wt 306.05(a)(5))?  N/A	acres
Step 6: For dredge projects: is the subject property contaminated (Env-Wt 306.05(a)(6))?  N/A	Yes No
SECTION 3 - ELIGIBILITY (Env-Wt 306.03; 310.01; 310.03)	
a. Is the project classified as minimum impact (Env-Wt 306.03)? If you answered no, you cannot use this form and must file a Standard Application form.	⊠ Yes □ No
b. Does your project include activities that are prohibited under RSA 482-A (Env-Wt 306.03(a))? If you answered yes, your project cannot be legally permitted.	Yes 🛭 No
c. Has any work in a jurisdictional area commenced prior to obtaining the applicable approval Env-Wt 306.03(b))? If you answered yes, you cannot use this form and must file a Standard Application form.	Yes 🛭 No
d. Has any work been done on the subject property pursuant to another EXP or a statutory permit-by-notification (SPN) for a period of 12 months from the date the EXP was issued that does <b>not</b> meet the following criteria (Env-Wt 310.03(a))?	
The proposed work is wholly unrelated to and separate from the work already done under the EXP or SPN;  The proposed work and the work already do not be a proposed	Yes 🛛 No
<ul> <li>The proposed work and the work already done under the EXP or SPN do not, when combined, constitute a project for which a standard permit is required.</li> <li>If you answered yes, you cannot use this form and must file a Standard Application form.</li> </ul>	
	Please reference
e. Is the project located in a PRA but <b>not</b> subject to a classification adjustment under Env-Wt 407.02 or a project-type exception (PTE) under Env-Wt 407.04 (Env-Wt 310.01(d)(6))? If you answered yes, you cannot use this form and must file a Standard Application form.	wetlands report included with application.
	Yes No

### SECTION 4 - INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT (Env-Wt 310.01(c))

Provide the following information on the proposed project.

Identification of the applicable minimum impact provision(s) in Env-Wt 500, Env-Wt 600, or Env-Wt 900 and the project-specific information required by those provision(s):

The project has been designed in accordance with Env-Wt 527- Public Highways. Per Env-Wt 527.07 this project was classified as minimum per the dimensions established in Env-Wt 407 and Table 407-1 that a minimum impact project impacts < 3,000 SF and/or, 50 LF of a watercourse.

Env-Wt 600- Coastal Lands and Tidal Waters/Wetlands is not applicable.

Env-Wt 900- Stream Crossing Rules are not applicable: The proposed project includes the replacement of an 18" pipe that conveys and/or equalizes waters between two wetlands; a forested/ scrub-shrub wetlands and a manmade pond. A defined stream channel was not identified during the site field review and delineation. Nor is a stream identified at this crossing area identified by StreamStats/ Hydrography dataset nor identified on USGS topo map as a stream at the road crossing.

A brief description of the project and the purpose of the project, outlining the scope of work to be performed and whether impacts are temporary or permanent, including the dimensions of the impacts in jurisdictional areas:

The project is located on NH Route 107 adjacent to the BCEP Transfer Station in Pittsfield. The project area is at a topographical low point. There are no streams running through the project area. The project will replace an existing collapsed culvert that had equalized the elevation of water between the Transfer Station's fire pond and the wetland located on the opposite side of NH 107 with an 18" RCP. An 18" RCP was selected as there is an 18" pipe that outlets into the fire pond under the Transfer Station's driveway. The project will also raise the roadway profile sag by 1.0' to improve the ponding that occurs at the intersection of NH 107 and the Transfer Station's driveway, which will help improve safety by eliminating future roadway winter icing issues.

Identification of the type of landform to be affected, including the type of wetland:

NH Route 107 is bordered by a Palustrine Forested/ Scrub Shrub wetlands to the west and a Palustrine Emergent manmade ditch and fire pond to the east. Please reference the included wetlands report for more details regarding the wetland complex to the west of the road.

The number of linear feet of shoreline frontage for linear feet	or projects located	on water bodies:	
(⊠ Not applicable)			
SECTION 5 - PROJECT LOCATION (Env-Wt 310.01	(b))	4.	
ADDRESS: NH Route 107	TOWN	I/CITY: Pittsfield	
TAX MAP/LOT NUMBER: N/A – NHDOT ROW			
LATITUDE (D.dddddd): 43.32392° North	LONGITU	JDE (D.ddddd): 71.31465° W	/est
NAME OF WATER BODY, WETLAND, OR OTHER JU	JRISDICTIONAL AR	EA WHERE WORK IS PROPO	DSED: N/A
Check the following box if the project is located in application for details regarding wetland classific	n a PRA: Please	reference wetlands report in ation that it is not a bog/ PRA	cluded with permit
Check the following box if the project is located in	n DESIGNATED RIV	ER CORRIDOR: N/A	
SECTION 6 – APPLICANT (DESIRED PERMIT HOLD If the applicant is a trust or a company, then the r name.			en as the applicant's
NAME: NH Dept. of Transportation			
MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 483	WWW. Company (1997)		
TOWN/CITY: Concord		STATE: NH	ZIP CODE: 03302
PHONE: 603-271-3226 & 603-524-6667			
SECTION 7 - AUTHORIZED AGENT INFORMATION  If the agent is a company, then the name of the co			ie.
NAME:	The second secon		
MAILING ADDRESS:			
TOWN/CITY:	No. of the Control of	STATE:	ZIP CODE:
PHONE:			
SECTION 8 - PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION (II f the owner is a trust or a company, then the nam			
NAME:			ESTATION OF THE PARTY OF
MAILING ADDRESS:	or accidence to the second sec		
TOWN/CITY:	Martinian construction of the data and the second of the second	STATE:	ZIP CODE:
PHONE:			

### SECTION 9 - APPLICATION FEE (RSA 482-A:3, I)

★400 for minimum impact projects. Please make your check or money order payable to: "Treasurer - State of NH".

SECTION 10 - ALL A	APPLICABLE CONDITIONS IN Env-Wt 307 HAVE BEEN MET (Env-Wt 310.03(b); Env-Wt 307.01(b))).
Check all condition sequence, and timi	s applicable to your project below. Please ensure that your plan design and access, construction ng appropriately meet applicable conditions below:
Env-Wt 307.02	US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Conditions
Env-Wt 307.03	Protection of Water Quality Required
Env-Wt 307.04	Protection of Fisheries and Breeding Areas Required N/A- no fisheries identified within wetlands
Env-Wt 307.05	
Env-Wt 307.06	Protection of Rare, Threatened or Endangered Species and Critical Habitat NLEB 4(d) consultation
Env-Wt 307.07	Consistency Required with Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act N/A
Env-Wt 307.08	Protection of Designated Prime Wetlands and Duly-Established 100-Foot Buffers N/A
Env-Wt 307.09	Shoreline Structures N/A
Env-Wt 307.10	Dredging Activity Conditions N/A
Env-Wt 307.11	Filling Activity Conditions
Env-Wt 307.12	Restoring Temporary Impacts: Site Stabilization
Env-Wt 307.13	Property Line Setbacks
Env-Wt 307.14	Rock Removal N/A
Env-Wt 307.15	Use of Heavy Equipment in Wetlands
Env-Wt 307.16	Adherence to Approved Plans Required
Env-Wt 307.17	Unpermitted Activities N/A
Env-Wt 307.18	Reports

CECTION	44		
	11 - REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS (Env-V	Vt 311.11; Env-Wt 310.01(d))	
	h box below to certify:		
Initials:	The proposed project meets the conditi	ons and limits of the applicable minimum impact project	rule.
Initials:	All abutters have been notified. Env-Wt 3 repair projects	06.06(c)(3) – abutter notification not required for public highwa	y maintenance or
Initials:	If the project is to repair or replace a do (☑ N/A)	cking structure, the docking structure is an existing legal	structure.
Initials:	The proposal is the alternative with the le	ast adverse impact to jurisdictional areas, as required by En	v-Wt 313.03.
Initials:	The project is not an after-the-fact appli	cation.	
Initials:	The project is:  Not located in a PRA; or Is located in a PRA but is subject project-type exception (PTE) un	t to a classification adjustment under Env-Wt 407.02 or a der Env-Wt 407.04.	1
Initials:	The applicant is aware of the limits of th and all applicable conditions in Env-Wt 3	e EXP and understands and will comply with all condition 07.	ns in the EXP
Initials:	To the best of the signer's knowledge an	d belief, all required notifications have been provided.	
Initials:	The information submitted on or with the signer's knowledge and belief.	e application is true, complete, and not misleading to th	e best of the
Initials:	<ol> <li>Deny the application.</li> <li>Revoke any approval that is a sertified well practice in New Hampshire, we stablished by RSA 310-A:1.</li> <li>The signer is subject to the penal currently RSA 641.</li> <li>The signature shall constitute aution Department to inspect the site of</li> </ol>	ete, or misleading information constitutes grounds for NH granted based on the information. And thank scientist, licensed surveyor, or professional engine refer the matter to the joint board of licensure and certifies specified in New Hampshire law for falsification in control of the municipal conservation commission and the proposed project, except for minimum impact trail put the Department to inspect the site pursuant to RSA 482-	er licensed to fication official matters, d the rojects, where
Initials:	If the applicant is not the owner of the pro	operty, each property owner signature shall constitute ce pplication being filed and does not object to the filing.	
SECTION 1	2 - REQUIRED SIGNATURE (Env-Wt 311		
SIGNATURE	(OWNER)*:	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY: District Alan G. Hauscon PE Engineer	DATE: /
property ow	applicant is not the owner of the property, or oner signatures shall not be required for trans	each property owner also shall sign and date the application sportation projects adjacent to existing rights-of-way where 1.11(d)). Check the following box is your project meets this	provided that
	(APPLICANT, IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER):	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	DATE:
IGNATURE	(AGENT, IF APPLICABLE):	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	DATE:

SECTION 13 - CONSERVATION COMMISSION SIGNA	ATURE (Env-Wt 310.01(h))**	
The signature below certifies that the municipal Conselocal governing body, has reviewed this application an	ervation Commission or, if there is no co ad waives its right to intervene per RSA 4	nservation commission, the 182-A:11.
AUTHORIZED COMMISSION SIGNATURE:	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	DATE: 8/27/20
SECTION 14 - LOCAL RIVER MANAGEMENT ADVISO		310.01(i))**
The signature below certifies that the Local River Maper RSA 482-A:11. ( N/A This project is <i>not</i> with	anagement Advisory Committee (LAC) in a Designated River Corridor)	waives its right to intervene
AUTHORIZED LAC REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE:	PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	DATE:
established in RSA 482-A:3, XIV (Env-Wt 310.02(h)).		
SECTION 15 - COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF If required by the appropriate minimum impact projuding conservation district or certified wetland scientist (C By signing below, the county conservation district or	R CERTIFIED WETLAND SCIENTIST SIGN ect rule, please provide a signed state CWS) certifying compliance with all cor	NATURE (Env-Wt 310.01(g)) ement by the county additions of that rule.
If required by the appropriate minimum impact project conservation district or certified wetland scientist (C	R CERTIFIED WETLAND SCIENTIST SIGN lect rule, please provide a signed state CWS) certifying compliance with all con certified wetland scientist certifies co	NATURE (Env-Wt 310.01(g)) ement by the county additions of that rule.
SECTION 15 - COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF If required by the appropriate minimum impact project conservation district or certified wetland scientist (CB) signing below, the county conservation district or of that rule. N/A  AUTHORIZED COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OR	R CERTIFIED WETLAND SCIENTIST SIGN sect rule, please provide a signed state CWS) certifying compliance with all con r certified wetland scientist certifies con PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	NATURE (Env-Wt 310.01(g)) ment by the county nditions of that rule. ompliance with all conditions
SECTION 15 - COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF If required by the appropriate minimum impact projeconservation district or certified wetland scientist (CBy signing below, the county conservation district or of that rule. N/A  AUTHORIZED COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OR CWS SIGNATURE:	R CERTIFIED WETLAND SCIENTIST SIGN ject rule, please provide a signed state (WS) certifying compliance with all con recertified wetland scientist certifies con PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	MATURE (Env-Wt 310.01(g)) ement by the county inditions of that rule. compliance with all conditions  DATE:
SECTION 15 - COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF If required by the appropriate minimum impact proj conservation district or certified wetland scientist (C By signing below, the county conservation district or of that rule. N/A AUTHORIZED COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT OR CWS SIGNATURE:  SECTION 16 - TOWN / CITY CLERK SIGNATURE (Env- As required by RSA 482-A:3, I(a)(1), I hereby certify t	R CERTIFIED WETLAND SCIENTIST SIGN ject rule, please provide a signed state (WS) certifying compliance with all con recertified wetland scientist certifies con PRINT NAME LEGIBLY:	MATURE (Env-Wt 310.01(g)) ement by the county inditions of that rule. compliance with all conditions  DATE:  Dies of the application  Y:

### **DIRECTIONS FOR TOWN/CITY CLERK:**

Per RSA 482-A:3,I(a),(1)

- IMMEDIATELY sign the original application form and four copies in the signature space provided above.
- Return the signed original application form and attachments to the applicant so that the applicant may submit the application form and attachments to NHDES by mail or hand delivery.

Please refer to RSA 482-A:3I(a)(1)
The four (4) town copies have been sent via certified mail and filed directly with the town in accordance with the above regulation.

- 3. IMMEDIATELY distribute a copy of the application with one complete set of attachments to each of the following bodies: the municipal Conservation Commission, the local governing body (Board of Selectmen or Town/City Council), and the Planning Board. And
- 4. Retain one copy of the application form and one complete set of attachments and make them reasonably accessible for public review.

### **DIRECTIONS FOR APPLICANT:**

### NHDES-W-06-052

Submit the single, original permit application form bearing the signature of the Town/City Clerk, additional materials, and the application fee to NHDES by mail or hand delivery at the address at the bottom of this page.

The project is located on NH Route 107 adjacent to the BCEP Transfer Station in Pittsfield. The project area is at a topographical low point. There are no streams running through the project area. The project will replace an existing collapsed culvert that had equalized the elevation of water between the Transfer Station's fire pond and the wetland located on the opposite side of NH 107 with an 18" RCP. An 18" RCP was selected as there is an 18" pipe that outlets into the fire pond under the Transfer Station's driveway. The project will also raise the roadway profile sag by 1.0' to improve the ponding that occurs at the intersection of NH 107 and the Transfer Station's driveway, which will help improve safety by eliminating future roadway winter icing issues. This project will impact a total of 2288 SF to the wetland located on the east side of NH 107 (fire pond side) (1832 SF permanent and 456 SF temporary) and will impact a total of 515 SF to the wetland located on the west side of NH 107 (159 SF permanent, 356 SF temporary) for a total impact of 2803 SF (1991 SF permanently and 812 SF temporary). The purpose of the project is to eliminate a significant safety hazard on NH Route 107 by eliminating ongoing winter icing issues associated with the collapsed culvert and low profile roadway.

### Large, Sarah

From:

Benedict, Karl

Sent:

Tuesday, August 04, 2020 2:45 PM

To:

Large, Sarah

Cc:

OSullivan, Andrew; Benjamin, Deidra

Subject:

RE: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

**Categories:** 

Attention

Hi Sarah,

The report provides a good summary of the existing conditions and can be used to confirm the proposed pipe replacement impact area (general) is not a 'bog'/PRA. The report provides a good site confirmation of existing conditions to address potential questions that would be raised based on use of the course screening tool method of the WWPT. The exact impact areas and BMPs can be reviewed with application/plans as noted. Thank you for the coordination,

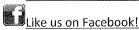
Karl Benedict, Public Works Subsection Supervisor Land Resources Management Water Division, NH Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95 Concord, NH 03302

Phone: (603) 271-4188 Fax: (603) 271-6588

Email: Karl.Benedict@des.nh.gov



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We greatly appreciate your feedback, please take a moment to fill out our NHDES-LRM <u>customer satisfaction</u> survey

From: Large, Sarah

Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 1:40 PM

To: Benedict, Karl

Cc: OSullivan, Andrew; Benjamin, Deidra

Subject: RE: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

Good afternoon Karl,

I am follow up regarding the PRA classification for the wetland complex to the west of NH Route 107 in Pittsfield, NH.

As a reminder, NHDOT District 3 is proposing to replace an existing collapsed 18" culvert that equalizes the elevation of water between the Transfer Station's fire pond and the wetland located on the opposite side (west) of NH 107 with an 18" RCP. The project will also raise the roadway profile sag by 1.0' to improve the ponding that occurs at the intersection of NH 107 and the Transfer Station's driveway, which will help improve safety by eliminating future roadway winter icing issues. The wetland complex to the west of NH Route 107 is classified as a PRA- peatland through the Wetland Permit Planning Tool (WPPT). After field review, NHDOT determined that the wetland complex is a forested/ scrub-shrub

wetland and does not have the characteristics of a bog and therefore does not meet the criteria to be a PRA. DOT is seeking NHDES' concurrence that the wetland complex does not meet the characteristics protected by the PRA classification and can proceed with preparing and submitting a standard dredge and fill wetlands permit application that does not indicate impacts to a PRA.

Attached is a delineation report, prepared by Deidra Benjamin with assistance from myself, that addresses items 1-4 that you outlined in your email on May  $6^{th}$ .

Please feel free to reach out to Deidra and me if you have any questions during your review.

District 3 continues to get great pressure from the town to pursue this work as soon as possible and pending permitting, plans to complete the work this construction season to avoid the hazardous icing across the northbound lane and Transfer Station's driveway during the winter. We are in the final stages of permitting and your review and concurrence are very much appreciated.

Best wishes,

Sarah Large
Wetlands Program Analyst
NH Department of Transportation
Bureau of Environment

From: Large, Sarah

Sent: Wednesday, May 06, 2020 1:37 PM
To: Benedict, Karl < Karl. Benedict@des.nh.gov>

Cc: OSullivan, Andrew < Andrew. Osullivan@dot.nh.gov >; St. Pierre, Russell < Russell. St. Pierre@dot.nh.gov >

Subject: RE: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

Thank you very much Karl for outlining this.

I had every intention to add photos to my last email (apologies). I plan to follow up to your email below prior to application submittal as it will help us answer and complete the application form more consistently and clearly as PRAs are referenced throughout the application form and application.

I will be in touch when I have each of the components below compiled outline below together. I completed 1, 2, and 4 while in the field doing my assessment and will just need to pull a narrative together for item 3 and summarize everything together.

Thanks again Karl!

Warm wishes,

Sarah

From: Benedict, Karl < Karl.Benedict@des.nh.gov >

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 11:25 AM **To:** Large, Sarah < <u>Sarah.Large@dot.nh.gov</u>>

Cc: OSullivan, Andrew < Andrew.Osullivan@dot.nh.gov >; St. Pierre, Russell < Russell.St.Pierre@dot.nh.gov >

Subject: RE: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

Hi Sarah,

I think the approach of providing an assessment and narrative which addresses the soil and vegetative features of the site with comparison to those found in a bog is correct. The administrative rule also points to the federal classification method, which I think is more specifically useful. The ACOE Northeast Regional Supplement provides some specific species/groupings for consideration of different bog systems. Consider species groupings per NE Regional Supplement (specifically consider the types of stunted trees identified)

To make this determination please provide the following;

- 1) Good photographic documentation for comparison ability to the federal classification criteria. (Basically I would need to 'see it' with associated photos/documentation to make a final determination)
- 2) Any site specific soil information would be helpful, any specific vegetative species composition would also be helpful.
- 3) Brief discussion of the proximity of the work area to the features identified, and BMPs implemented will be helpful. (Ex. Is there dewatering proposed that may extend outlet hose to a PRA?)
- 4) Please also determine the Cowardin classification.

If you would like to send photos of the proposed work area, and the site specific soil and vegetation info. in advance of the application, I could confirm PRA classification in advance of application submittal.

Thanks,

Karl Benedict, Public Works Subsection Supervisor Land Resources Management Water Division, NH Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95 Concord, NH 03302 Phone: (603) 271-4188

Phone: (603) 271-4188 Fax: (603) 271-6588

Email: Karl.Benedict@des.nh.gov



We greatly appreciate your feedback, please take a moment to fill out our NHDES-LRM <u>customer satisfaction</u> <u>survey</u>

From: Large, Sarah < Sarah.Large@dot.nh.gov > Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:36 AM

To: Benedict, Karl < Karl. Benedict@des.nh.gov >

Cc: OSullivan, Andrew < Andrew.Osullivan@dot.nh.gov >; St. Pierre, Russell < Russell.St.Pierre@dot.nh.gov >

Subject: RE: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

Good morning Karl,

Thank you for the guick follow up. It is much appreciated.

Based on my academic and professional background I have determined that the wetland to the west of NH107 is not a bog. And with the guidance outlined below, I plan to provide a write up with the wetland permit application describing the wetland system (along with the functions and values assessment completed for the site while I was out there) and including my determination that the wetland complex is not a bog and therefore not a PRA.

Below is some of my train of thought regarding my determination:

The definition of a bog (Env-wt 102.30) in the wetland rules is "Bog" means a wetland distinguished by stunted evergreen trees and shrubs peat deposits, poor drainage, highly acidic soil conditions, highly acidic water conditions, or any combination thereof, as determined using the federal classification method.

There is no open water nor floating sphagnum moss mat, nor any of the identifying plants in a bog system within this wetland complex that indicated the water is acidic or that the soils are acidic.

The soils throughout the wetland complex are a mix of soil drainage types. The soils immediately along the road shoulder/ wetland boundary were found to not be very poorly drained soils, however very poorly drained soils were found intermittently as you walked farther into the wetland complex and away from the boundary and anticipated impact area. Overall, it is my determination that the "poor drainage" classifier in the definition above is not met where impacts are anticipated.

There were evergreens and shrubs present that were stunted, while there were also deciduous trees intermixed as well. Not fully meeting the classifier in the definition above nor my professional knowledge of the plant stratum of bogs.

If my understanding of the DES definition of bog is not correct and you disagree with this assessment, please let me know. Or if you would like to discuss further. I am looking for concurrence on this in an effort to not wait until the permit application is submitted and reviewed and to eliminate the potential of an RFMI item specific to this resource so that we apply for the correct classification and complete the application correct.

Thank you very much for your help and coordinate specific to this project and PRA question,

Sarah
Wetlands Program Analyst
NH Department of Transportation
Bureau of Environment

From: Benedict, Karl < Karl. Benedict@des.nh.gov >

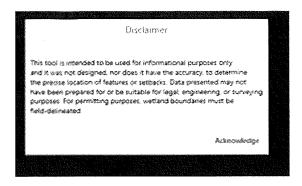
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 1:08 PM **To:** Large, Sarah < Sarah. Large@dot.nh.gov >

Cc: OSullivan, Andrew <Andrew.Osullivan@dot.nh.gov>; St. Pierre, Russell <Russell.St.Pierre@dot.nh.gov>

Subject: RE: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

Hi Sarah,

Appreciate the time to discuss with DES reviewer group and your effort to follow-up. The PRA distinction is defined as a 'bog'. The WPPT is designed as a <u>course</u> screening reference, Soil layers identified as 'Peatland' can be used as a course screening layer to identify whether a bog (PRA) may be present on the site. The site would need to be reviewed for the specific resource to determine of present. Documentation of conditions through photos and narrative of site review is recommended and has been requested in the past by other reviewers for specific site clarification. Ex. If reviewer identifies per WWPT a peatland layer, this will direct to review of specific resource classification and how it was addressed through wetland delineation/plan.

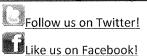


Short answer is site review required to determine if PRA exists based on the resource classification. The WWPT used for course screening not site definitive.

Karl Benedict, Public Works Subsection Supervisor Land Resources Management Water Division, NH Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95 Concord, NH 03302

Phone: (603) 271-4188 Fax: (603) 271-6588

Email: Karl.Benedict@des.nh.gov



We greatly appreciate your feedback, please take a moment to fill out our NHDES-LRM <u>customer satisfaction</u> survey

From: Large, Sarah < <u>Sarah.Large@dot.nh.gov</u>>

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 12:40 PM

**To:** Benedict, Karl < <a href="mailto:Karl.Benedict@des.nh.gov">Karl.Benedict@des.nh.gov</a> **Cc:** OSullivan, Andrew < Andrew.Osullivan@dot.nh.gov >; St. Pierre, Russell < <a href="mailto:Russell.St.Pierre@dot.nh.gov">Russell.St.Pierre@dot.nh.gov</a> 
>>

Subject: Pittsfield, 2019-M315-3 Peatland Inquiry

Hi Karl,

I am circling back to a conversation we started at this month's (April) Natural Resource Agency meeting regarding the WPPT's classification of peatland for the wetland adjacent to NHDOT Project 2019-M316-3 in Pittsfield, NH along NH Route 107 and adjacent to the town/ BCEP transfer station. You mentioned at the Natural Resource Agency meeting that you had a meeting with other DES folks regarding PRA the following day. How did that go? What came of it that might be helpful with this project and projects moving forward?

One of my biggest questions / comments is that there is a discrepancy between the rules defining a bog as a PRA and the WPPT reference petlands and not bogs.

If you would like to chat more about the specifics of what I found in the field with Deidra I would love to set up a planned timed to chat.

Thank you in advance for your help and guidance.

Sarah Large Wetlands Program Analyst NH Department of Transportation Bureau of Environment Karl Benedict, Public Works Subsection Supervisor NHDES Wetlands Bureau 29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301

Subject: Designated PRA, Route 107, Pittsfield, NH (Across from the BCEP Dump)

On March 11, 2020 Sarah Large and I conducted a wetland delineation of the above referenced wetland and identified in the attached map made using the Wetland Permit Planning Tool (WPPT). During this site visit we also completed the Highway Methodology Function and Value Assessment and the USACE Wetland Determination Data forms for both an upland data plot and a wetland data plot. I revisited this site on July 17, 2020 to confirm the herbaceous vegetation we observed in March of this year.

The purpose of this field inspection was to gather the data necessary for future permitting purposes. This section of road is bordered by the natural scrub shrub wetland to the west and a manmade detention pond associated with the BCEP Dump to the east. There is a cross pipe connecting these two systems, but over time the manmade pond has filled in with organic material and the road is flooded for long durations throughout the year and in particular in the winter the flooding and freezing within the roadway has created significant safety concerns. As a result of the flooding, the NHDOT is preparing to replace the pipe and upgrade the road in this area.

NHDOT District 3 proposes to replace the culvert over a two-day period, so a clean water bypass is not anticipated. Work will not be started unless the weather is forecasted to be clear over several days. Further details regarding the Erosion Controls and Best Management Practices will be included in the construction sequence submitted with the permit application. District 3 forces are proposing to use sandbag cofferdams to divert water and to pump water from within the work area to dewatering basins located on both sides of the road and placed at a minimum of 20ft from jurisdictional wetlands. Based on what we observed in the field and the proposed construction sequence we do not anticipate any changed or increased flows to the wetland as a result of this project.

During our site review we delineated and gathered data on the portion of the wetland within 50' of the edge of the road. We reviewed approximately 50' from the edge of the road into the wetland to ensure we covered enough area to be well outside any potential impact areas necessary to resolve the flooding issue on this section of Route 107. The information provided below, and the request to adjust the PRA designation pertains only to the area we reviewed.

Currently, the wetland across from the BCEP Dump is classified as a NHDES designated Priority Resource Area (PRA) "Peatlands" as identified through the WPPT. Based on our site inspection we ask that you review and adjust this designation.

The NHDES PRAs (Env-Wt 103.66) consist of a variety of habitat types, including bogs. The NHDES administrative rule regarding bogs (Env-Wt 102.30) references the use of the federal classification method to accurately identify bogs. Using the USACE Supplement to the delineation manual, for the northeast region, bogs can be defined as "peat forming wetlands with acidic soils that support relatively few species of acid-loving plants, such as *Sphagnum* mosses, and develop in areas where precipitation is the primary water source." The supplement also provides plant species lists and hydric soil classifications that are most likely to be found in bogs in New England.

According the Supplement to the manual, forested bogs found in our area typically include species such as, tamarack and black spruce with a sphagnum carpet in southern New England and northern white cedar with a sphagnum carpet dominating the coniferous bogs in northern New England. The dominant vegetation in shrub bogs will consists of sphagnum carpet, leatherleaf, bog laurel, cranberries, sweet gale, pitcher plant, sundews, black spruce and tamarack.

Typical hydric soil indicators found in bogs include, histosols, histic epipedon and black histic. The overarching characteristic of these indicators is the presence of greater than 8" of organic soil material.

While completing the data form for our wetland data plot we collected data on hydrology features, plant species within our designated plots and recorded a soil test pit. Tree species we observed within our wetland data plot include, eastern hemlock and white pine. Shrub species observed include, red maple, highbush blueberry, speckled alder, winterberry and meadowsweet. Herbaceous species observed include, sensitive fern, reed canary grass, cinnamon fern and cattails. Other vegetation observed within the wetland but outside of our data plot includes, swamp candle, soft rush, fringed sedge and red maple (tree height). We did not observe any sphagnum moss carpets within the portions of the wetlands we reviewed.

The test pit in our wetland data plot consists of approximately 4" of organic soil material on top of more than 12" of 10YR 2/1 with 10YR 6/1 depletions throughout the matrix. This soil keyed out as A12 Thick Dark Surface.

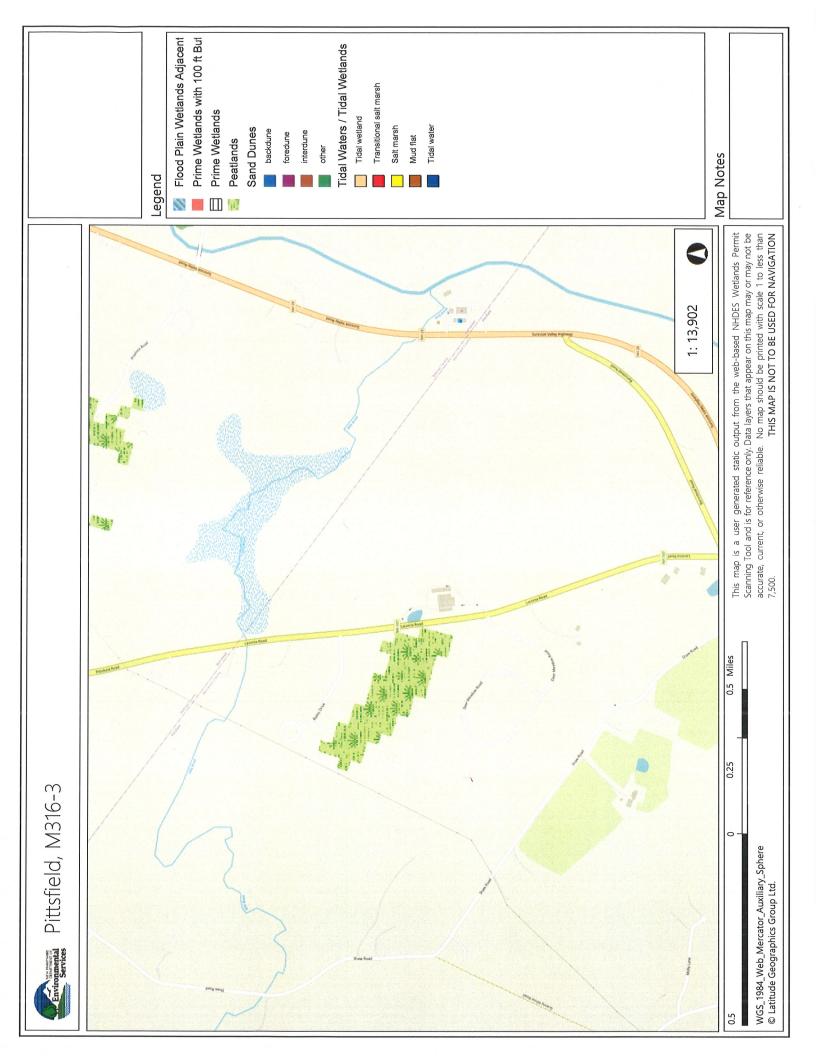
The Supplement to the delineation manual also provides characteristics of vegetation found in typical scrub shrub wetlands in our region. The vegetation typically found in a scrub shrub wetland very closely matches the vegetation we observed in the wetland we are discussing in this report. According to the manual the vegetation typically found in scrub shrub wetlands includes alders, willows, dogwoods, meadowsweet and steeplebush, along with ferns, sedges and rushes for ground cover. The manual also notes that disturbed deciduous shrub wetlands often have large stands of reed canary grass.

Based on the data gathered onsite and the information provided in the Supplement to the delineation manual it is clear that the portion of the wetland we reviewed, consisting of the area of wetland within 50' of the edge of the road, does not meet the criteria for a bog/peatland. The soils and vegetation are consistent with a typical scrub shrub wetland system, commonly found throughout northern New

England, and gave the system the Cowardin classification PFO/SS1E (Palustrine, Forested/ Scrub Shrub, Broad-leaved deciduous, seasonally flooded/saturated ) .

Thank you for taking the time to read this request and please let me know if you have additional questions. Photos can be found attached to this document.

Sincerely,
Deidra Benjamin CWS, CESSWI
NHDOT Environmental Coordinator



# Wetlands - Pittsfield, NH M316-3



December 19, 2019

## Wetlands

Estuarine and Marine Deepwater

Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake

Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

- Other

Riverine

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) This page was produced by the NVM mapper



This is a representative view of the wetland vegetation observed onsite. The dominant herbaceous vegetation consists of cattails and different species of ferns.

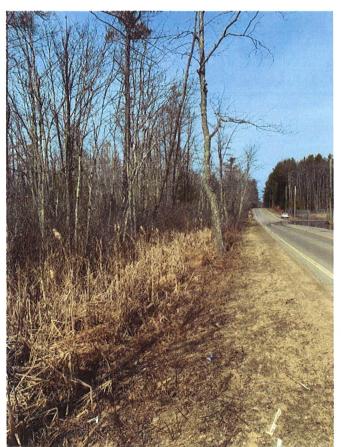


Another view of vegetation onsite. The plant community structure consists of herbaceous vegetation, shrubs, and trees. Dominant shrub species include red maple, highbush blueberry and eastern hemlock.



6-17-2020 Photo of Forested/ Scrub Shrub Wetland

### Pittsfield M316-1 Wetlands Delineation Report Photos



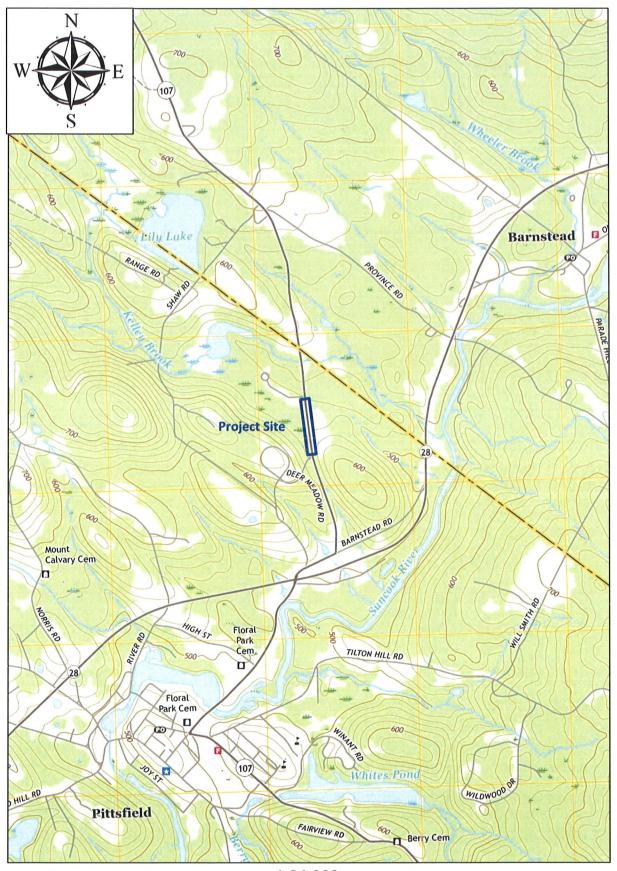


Route 107 Forested/ Scrub Shrub Wetland: Left Photo Facing North; Right Photo Facing South (photos 3/2020)



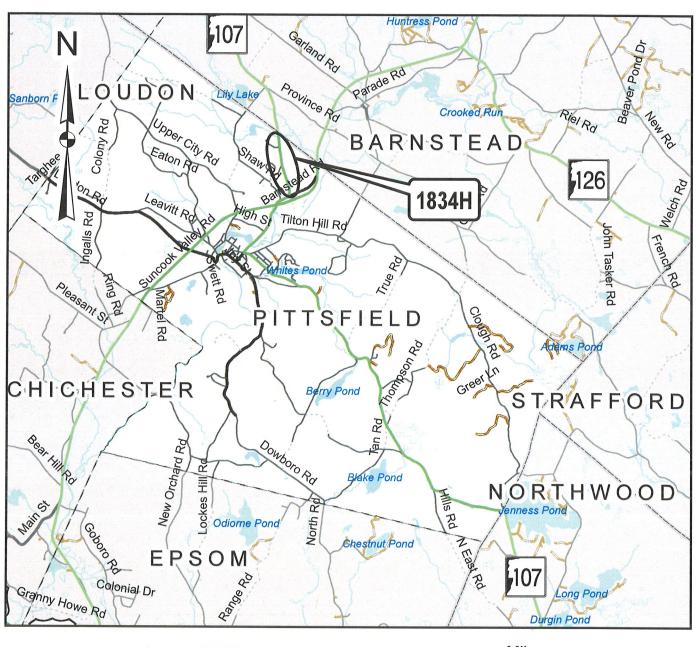
Approximate location of pipe within forested/ scrub shrub wetland west of NH Rte. 107 (photos 3/2020)

### Pittsfield M316-3



1:24,000

### PITTSFIELD - NH 107 at BCEP Facility

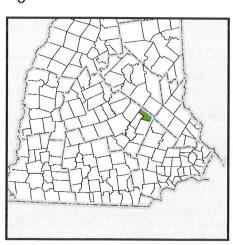


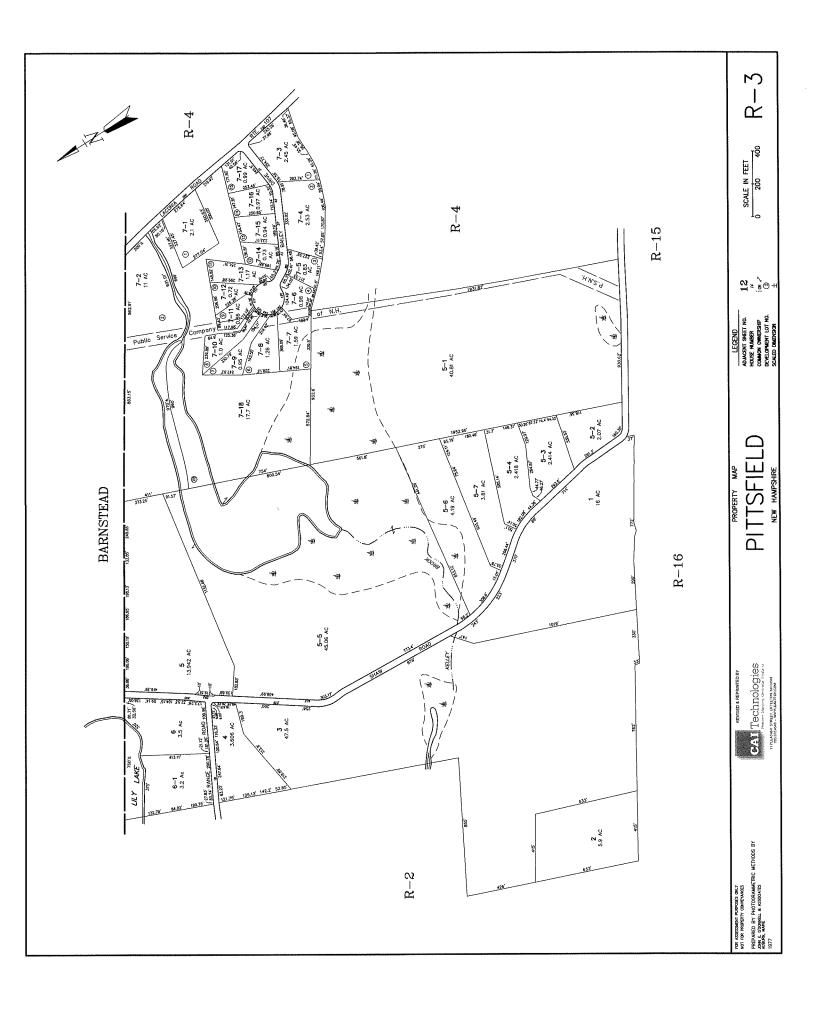


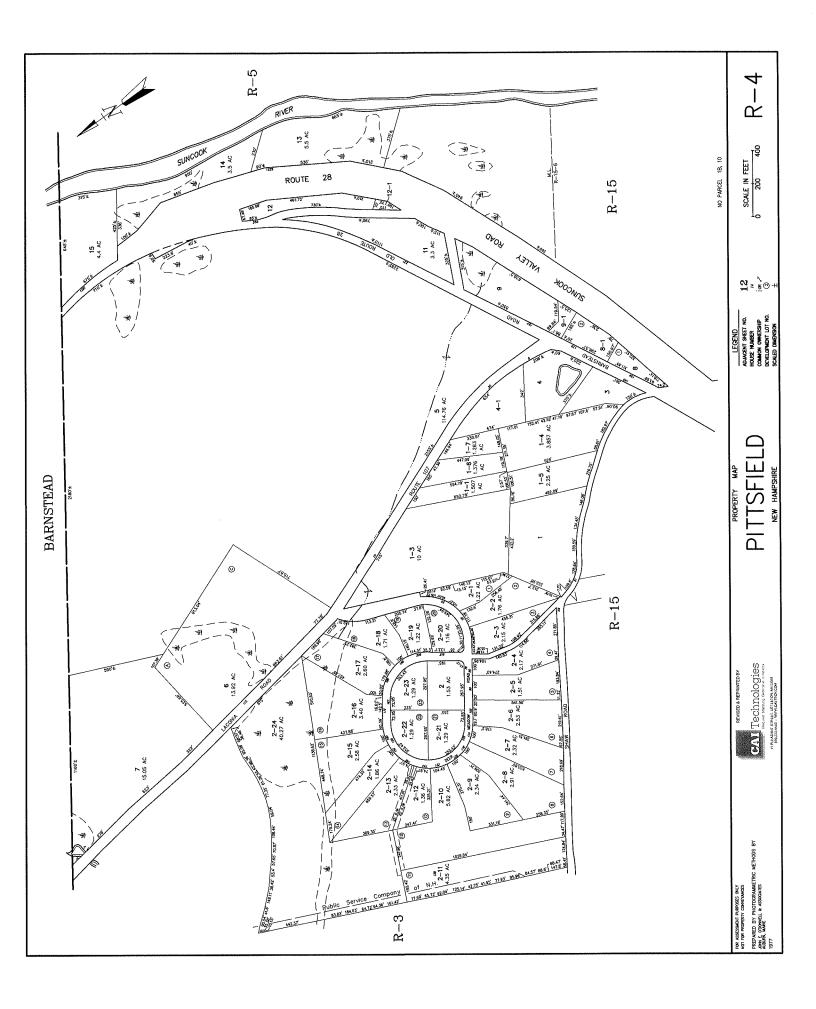
# LEGEND Streams Water Bodies US Routes State Routes Interstates Local Roads - - - Town Boundary Railroad



State #: 1834H Federal #:NA LOCATION MAP



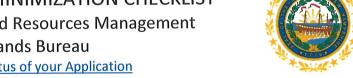






### AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION CHECKLIST

### Water Division/Land Resources Management Wetlands Bureau



Check the Status of your Application

**RSA/Rule:** RSA 482-A/ Env-Wt 311.07(d)

SECTION 1 – CONTACT/LOCATION INFORMATION

This checklist can be used in lieu of the written narrative required by Env-Wt 311.07(a) to demonstrate compliance with requirements for Avoidance and Minimization (A/M), pursuant to RSA 482-A:1 and Env-Wt 311.07(d).

"A/M BMPs" stands for Wetlands Best Management Practice Techniques for Avoidance and Minimization dated 2019, published by the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (Env-Wt 102.18).

"Practicable" means available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes (Env-Wt 103.62).

PROJECT STREET ADDRESS: NH Route 107		PROJECT TOWN: Pittsfield	
TAX MAP/LOT NUMBE	R: N/A		
SECTION 2 - PRIMAR	Y PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT		
Env-Wt 311.07(b)(1)	Indicate whether the primary purpos water-access structure or requires ac buildable lot or the buildable portion	cess through wetlands to reach a	☐ Yes ⊠ No
Replace an existing co Station's fire pond and	to this question, describe the purpose of lapsed culvert (size unknown) that equal the downstream wetland with an 18" of 1.0' to eliminate all future roadway w	ualizes the elevation of water betwee RCP. The project will also raise the e	n the Transfer
Check the appropriate	NNCE PROJECT DESIGN TECHNIQUE boxes below in order to demonstrate not applicable) for each technique that	that these items have been consider	ed in the planning of

Env-Wt 311.07(b)(3)	Whether alternative designs or techniques, such as different layouts, construction sequencing, or alternative technologies could be used to avoid impacts to jurisdictional areas or their functions and values on the subject property or on another property reasonably available to the applicant.	Check
Env-Wt 311.07(b)(4) Env-Wt 311.10(c)(1)	The results of the functional assessment required by Env-Wt 311.03(b)(10) were used to select the location of the proposed project having the least impact to wetland functions.	Check
Env-Wt 311.07(b)(4) Env-Wt 311.10(c)(2)	The proposed project has been designed to have the least impact to wetland functions.	Check
Env-Wt 311.07(b)(4) Env-Wt 311.10(c)(3)	Where impact to wetland functions is unavoidable, the proposed impacts are limited to the wetlands with the least valuable functions on the site while avoiding and minimizing impacts to the wetlands with the highest and most valuable functions.	⊠ Check □ N/A
Env-Wt 313.01(c)(1)- (2) Env-Wt 313.03(b)(1)	No practicable alternative would reduce adverse impact on the area and environments and the project will not cause random or unnecessary destruction of wetlands.	Check
Env-Wt 313.01(c)(3)	The project would not cause or contribute to the significant degradation of waters of the state or the loss of any PRAs.	☐ Check ☐ N/A
Env-Wt 313.03(b)(2)	The project avoids impacts to marshes that are documented to provide sources of nutrients for finfish, crustacea, shellfish, and wildlife of significant value.	☐ Check
Env-Wt 313.03(b)(3) Env-Wt 904.07(c)(8)	The project maintains hydrologic connectivity between adjacent wetlands or stream systems.	Check
Env-Wt 311.01(b) Env-Wt 313.03(b)(4)	The project avoids and minimizes impacts to wetlands and other areas of jurisdiction under RSA 482-A, especially those in which there are	
	exemplary natural communities, vernal pools, protected species and habitat, documented fisheries, and habitat and reproduction areas for species of concern.	N/A
Env-Wt 313.03(b)(5)	habitat, documented fisheries, and habitat and reproduction areas for	
Env-Wt 313.03(b)(5)  Env-Wt 311.10  A/M BMPs	habitat, documented fisheries, and habitat and reproduction areas for species of concern.  The project avoids and minimizes impacts that eliminate, depreciate, or	□ N/A  ☑ Check
Env-Wt 311.10	habitat, documented fisheries, and habitat and reproduction areas for species of concern.  The project avoids and minimizes impacts that eliminate, depreciate, or obstruct public commerce, navigation, or recreation.  Buildings and/or access are positioned away from high function	☐ N/A  ☐ Check ☐ N/A ☐ Check

A/M BMPs	Proposed utilities are suspended from bridges to avoid trenching through wetlands.	☐ Check N/A
A/M BMPs	The width of access roads or driveways is reduced to avoid and minimize impacts. Pullouts are incorporated in the design as needed.	☐ Check ☑ N/A
A/M BMPs	Retaining walls are proposed to avoid placing fill in wetlands. The retaining walls would not block hydrology or wildlife corridors.	Check
A/M BMPs	The project proposes bridges or spans instead of roads/driveways/trails with culverts.	☐ Check ☑ N/A
A/M BMPs	Natural topography is incorporated in the design to avoid grading.	Check
SECTION 4 - MINIMIZ	ZATION DESIGN TECHNIQUES	
Env-Wt 311.10	The project was designed to minimize impacts to higher-quality wetlands.	Check
Env-Wt 311.01(b) Env-Wt 313.03(b)	The project was designed to minimize impacts to habitat, reproduction areas, fishery, vernal pools, or protected species or habitat.	Check
A/M BMPs	The project was designed to minimize the number of crossings and their size.	☐ Check ☐ N/A
A/M BMPs	Wetlands and streams are proposed to be crossed at their narrowest point.	☐ Check ⊠ N/A
Env-Wt 500 Env-Wt 600 Env-Wt 900	Wetland and stream crossings include features that accommodate aquatic organism passage and wildlife passage.	☐ Check ☐ N/A
Env-Wt 313.01(c)(1) Env-Wt 313.03(b)(6)	The project was designed to avoid and minimize impacts to floodplain wetlands that provide flood storage.	Check
Env-Wt 313.01(c)(1) Env-Wt 313.03(b)(7)	Impacts to natural riverine forested wetlands systems and scrub-shrub marsh complexes of high ecologic integrity are avoided and minimized.	⊠ Check □ N/A
Env-Wt 313.01(c)(1) Env-Wt 313.03(b)(8)	Impacts to wetlands that would be detrimental to drinking water supply and groundwater aquifer levels are avoided and minimized.	☐ Check ☐ N/A
Env-Wt 313.01(c)(1) Env-Wt 313.03(b)(9)	Adverse impacts to stream channels and their ability to handle stormwater runoff are avoided and minimized.	☐ Check ☐ N/A
Env-Wt 900	Stream crossings are sized to address hydraulic capacity and geomorphic compatibility.	☐ Check

A/M BMPs	Disturbed areas are used for crossings wherever practicable, including existing roadways, paths, or trails upgraded with new culverts or bridges.	Check
RSA 482-A:11, II	Project is designed to minimize impacts to abutting properties.	Check
Env-Wt 307.13	Setbacks from property lines required by Env-Wt 307.13 are maintained.	Check
SECTION 5 - RESOUR	CE-SPECIFIC DESIGN TECHNIQUES	
Env-Wt 500	The project is designed to address resource-specific avoidance and minimization criteria for non-tidal jurisdictional areas.	Check
Env-Wt 600	The project is designed to address resource-specific avoidance and minimization criteria for coastal lands and tidal waters/wetlands.	Check
Env-Wt 307.08 Env-Wt 700	The project is designed to address resource-specific avoidance and minimization criteria for designated prime wetlands.	Check
SECTION 6 - PROJECT	T-SPECIFIC DESIGN TECHNIQUES	
Env-Wt 500	The project is designed to use techniques outlined in Env-Wt 500 for projects in non-tidal jurisdictional areas.	Check
Env-Wt 600	The project is designed to use techniques outlined in Env-Wt 600 for projects in coastal lands and tidal waters/wetlands.	☐ Check ☐ N/A
Env-Wt 900	The project is designed to use stream crossing techniques outlined in Env-Wt 900 for stream crossing projects.	Check



# PUBLIC HIGHWAYS PROJECT-SPECIFIC WORKSHEET FOR STANDARD APPLICATION



### Water Division/Land Resources Management Wetlands Bureau

Check the Status of your Application

RSA/Rule: RSA 482-A/ Env-Wt 522

### APPLICANT LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: NH Department of Transportation Maint. District 3

This worksheet summarizes the criteria and requirements for a Standard Permit for "Public Highways", one of the 18 specific project types in Chapter Env-Wt 500. In addition to the project-specific criteria and requirements on this worksheet, all Standard Dredge and Fill Applications must meet the criteria and requirements listed in the Standard Dredge and Fill Application form (NHDES-W-06-012).

### SECTION 1 - APPLICABILITY AND EXEMPTION (Env-Wt 527.01; Env-Wt 527.06(b))

This worksheet is for construction and maintenance projects for public highways in jurisdictional areas, but not for:

- Activities relating to stream crossings (which must be undertaken in accordance with Env-Wt 900);
- Public highway projects that impact tidal resources (which must be undertaken in accordance with Env-Wt 600); or
- Bank stabilization projects (which must be undertaken in accordance with Env-Wt 514).

Replacement of dislodged rocks on an existing rip-rap portion of a legally existing permitted road embankment to stabilize the structure may be done without a permit.

### SECTION 2 - APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR PUBLIC HIGHWAY PROJECTS (Env-Wt 527.02)

For a project in the 100-year floodplain, the project will not increase flood stages off-site.

RSA 4	plication for public highway project must meet the following approval criteria, subject to the rebuttable presumption in 82-A:3, I-a that for applications proposed, sponsored, or administered by the New Hampshire Department of portation (NHDOT), NHDOT has exercised appropriate engineering judgment in the project's design:
	ne project meets the design criteria specified in Env-Wt 527.04;
⊠ Th	ne project is consistent with RSA 482-A:1, RSA 483, RSA 483-B, RSA 485-A, and RSA 212-A;
	ne purpose of the project is to improve or maintain public safety, consistent with federal and state safety standards;
Section 201	ne project will not cause displacement of flood storage wetlands or cause diversion of stream flow impacting butting landowner property; and

### **SECTION 3 - APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC HIGHWAY PROJECTS (Env-Wt 527.03)**

JECTIO	A 3 - All Electron Regulation of the obligation of the state of the st
Please p	provide the following information:
🔀 A de	scription of the scope of the project, the size of the impacts to aquatic resources, and the purpose of the project;
tope exis the pipe futu side wet (199 on l	project is located on NH 107 adjacent to the BCEP Transfer Station in Pittsfield. This entire area is a ographical low point and there are no streams running through the impacted area. The project will replace an string collapsed culvert that had equalized the elevation of water between the Transfer Station's fire pond and wetland located on the other side of the roadway with an 18" RCP. An 18" RCP was selected because an 18" e outlets into the fire pond. The project will also raise the roadway profile sag elevation by 1.0' to eliminate all are roadway winter icing issues. This project will impact a total of 2288 SF to the wetland located on the east of NH 107 (fire pond side) (1832 SF permanent and 456 SF temporary) and will impact a total of 515 SF to the cland located on the west side of NH 107(159 SF permanent, 356 SF temporary) for a total impact of 2803 SF permanently and 812 SF temporary). The purpose of the project is to eliminate a significant safety hazard NH Route 107 by eliminating ongoing winter icing issues associated with the collapsed culvert and low profile roadway.
	accurate drawing with existing and proposed structure dimensions clearly annotated to:
	Document existing site conditions;
	Detail the precise location of the project and show the impact of the proposed activity on jurisdictional areas;  Show existing and proposed contours at 2-foot intervals;
	Show existing and proposed structure invert elevations on the plans; and
	Use a scale based on standard measures of whole units, such as an engineering rule of one to 10, provided that if plans are not printed at full scale, a secondary scale shall be noted on the plans that identifies the half scale unit of measurement;
⊠ All e	easements and right-of-way acquisition area outlines in relation to the project;
	name of the professional engineer who developed the plans, whether an employee of the applicant or at a sulting firm; and
🛛 An e	erosion control plan that shows:
	Existing and proposed contours at 2-foot intervals, with existing contours shown with a lighter line weight and proposed contours shown with a heavier line weight such as a bold font; and

The outermost limit of all work areas, including temporary phasing work, with perimeter controls.

SECTION 4 - DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC HIGHWAY PROJECTS (Env-Wt 527.04)
In addition to meeting all applicable criteria established in Env-Wt 300, all projects must:
Protect significant function wetlands, watercourses, and priority resource area(s);
Minimize impacts to wetland and riparian function;
Maintain wetland and stream hydrology and function to the remaining aquatic resources;
Use on-site measures to compensate for any loss of flood storage where the project proposes:
Filling or placement of structures in a 100-year floodplain; or
<ul> <li>Greater than 0.5 acre-feet of fill volume or a road crossing that affects floodplain conveyance;</li> </ul>
Use on-site minimization and water quality protection measures to prevent direct discharge to surface waters and wetlands, including retention of vegetated filter strips between the construction area and the aquatic resource areas to disperse runoff with no direct discharge to natural wetlands or surface waters; and
Where temporary impacts will occur, include re-establishment of a similar ecosystem using vegetative species and spacing that are as similar as practicable to what was removed unless the applicant shows that the proposed vegetative composition will provide higher functions and values.
SECTION 5 - CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC HIGHWAY PROJECTS (Env-Wt 527.05)
In addition to complying with all applicable conditions in Env-Wt 307, the following construction requirements apply to public highway projects:
The permit shall be contingent on review and approval by NHDES of final stream diversion and erosion control plans that detail the timing and method of stream flow diversion during construction and show temporary siltation, erosion, and turbidity control measures to be implemented; and
The contractor responsible for completion of the work shall use techniques described in Env-Wq 1504.06, Env-Wq 1504.16, Env-Wq 1505.02, Env-Wq 1506, and Env-Wq 1508.
SECTION 6 - PUBLIC HIGHWAY PROJECTS PROJECT CLASSIFICATION (Env-Wt 527.07)
Public highway projects shall be classified based on the dimensions established in Env-Wt 407, subject to the adjustments and project exceptions established in Env-Wt 407.

# **BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENT** CONFERENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: NHDOT Monthly Natural Resource Agency Coordination Meeting

**DATE OF CONFERENCE:** April 15, 2020

LOCATION OF CONFERENCE: John O. Morton Building

ATTENDED BY:

Bill Saffian

Chelsey Noyes

Natural Heritage Bureau **NHDOT** ACOE Rick Kristoff Amy Lamb Sarah Large Ron Crickard The Nature Conservancy Andrew O'Sullivan **EPA** Jeannie Brochi Pete Steckler Meli Dube Beth Alafat Chris Carucci Consultants/Public Russ St. Pierre Federal Highway **Participants** Samantha Fifield Peter Walker Administration Anthony Weatherbee Jaimie Sikora Julie Whitmore Rebecca Martin Kimberly Peace Jason Tremblay Joanne Theriault **NHDES** David Scott Sean James Lori Sommer Marc Laurin Marge Badois Karl Benedict Phile Miles Sandra Newman NH Fish & Game

## PRESENTATIONS/ PROJECTS REVIEWED THIS MONTH: (minutes on subsequent pages)

Carol Henderson

Meeting Minutes	2
Stoddard, #42708	
Pittsfield, #2019-M316-3	
Allenstown-Pembroke, #40362	
Deerfield, #24477	
Salem-Manchester, #10418F (IM-0931(205))	
Statewide, #41915 (X-A004(799))	.11

(When viewing these minutes online, click on a project to zoom to the minutes for that project.)

opening area. Even though the liners will conform to the corrugations of the pipe, the material will still be smoother than the original metal and will therefore increase flow capacity.

Peter Steckler of The Nature Conservancy stated that the project area is not in a terrestrial crossing hotspot and therefore has no objections to the rehabilitation alternative. Representatives from the EPA the USACOE also confirmed that they had no additional concerns or objections to the project. L. Sommer stated that since the permanent impacts are associated with stream restoration due removing the mitered ends of the pipes that no mitigation would be necessary for the work as proposed.

This project has not been previously discussed at a Monthly Natural Resource Agency Coordination Meeting.

#### Pittsfield, #2019-M316-3

Russ presented a project to replace a failed culvert on NH Route 107 in Pittsfield and to raise a section of the road. The proposal would replace the existing 15-inch corrugated metal pipe with an 18-inch reinforced concrete pipe. To accommodate the larger pipe, approximately 300 feet of a section of the road containing the new culvert would be raised one foot and then taper back to the existing road profile.

Adjacent to the project area on the east side of the road is the BECP Solid Waste District Facility, a transfer station and recycling center for the Towns of Barnstead, Chichester, Epsom, & Pittsfield. The solid waste facility maintains a fire pond on its property. The failed culvert acts as an overflow structure for the fire pond, allowing excess water to flow under westward under Route 107 to a large wetland. Because of its failed condition, seasonally high water tables cause the fire pond to overflow into Route 107, resulting in standing water in the road, icing over in winter, and potholes. The topography of the project area also indicates water in the fire pond can flow easterly through a different culvert on the BCEP property and drain in a northeasterly direction.

Russ also noted that the Wetlands Permit Planning Tool (WPPT) identified a Priority Resource Area (PRA) labeled "peatlands" in the large wetland on the west side of Route 107. He expressed concern regarding this designation because peatlands is not a type of jurisdictional area included in the definition of a PRA. According to Natural Community Systems of NH, 2ed, peatlands is a general term pertaining to 11 different natural communities comprised of bogs, fens, and peat swamp systems. Bogs are listed in the NHDES wetland rules as a type of PRA, but fens and peat swamp systems are not. Russ also noted that when Bureau of Environment personnel delineated the wetlands within the project area, they did not observe any bogs, and their soil testing did not identify any peat. It was agreed there will need to be follow-up discussions on this issue.

Anticipated wetland impacts were described as follows:

On the west side of Route 107, there will be 23 square feet of temporary and permanent impacts (PSS/EM1E) in a narrow band south of the culvert location, 254 square feet of temporary impacts (PSS/EM1E) at the culvert replacement site, and 238 square feet of temporary and permanent impacts (PSS/EM1E) in a narrow band north of the culvert location.

On the east side of Route 107, there will be 2,288 square feet of temporary and permanent impacts (PEM1E and PEM1E×ditch) in a strip between the road and a chain link fence along the fire pond. Total permanent impacts equal 1,991 square feet; total temporary impacts equal 812 square feet total combined impacts equal 2803 square feet.

Other issues: the US Fish & Wildlife Service IPaC tool identified northern long eared bats within the project area. This project does not include tree cutting and therefore is unlikely to impact bats. The NH Natural Heritage Bureau identified the smooth green snake, a State species of concern within the project area.

S.Large mentioned that the project impacts do not reach the mitigation threshold of 10,000 SF of permanent impacts to palustrine wetlands and therefore mitigation was not anticipated for this project. L. Sommer agreed that the threshold didn't appear to be met and therefore concurred no mitigation was required.

This project has not been previously discussed at a Monthly Natural Resource Agency Coordination Meeting.

#### Allenstown-Pembroke, #40362

Julie introduced the project, which is the rehabilitation of Bridge #107/098 in Allenstown and Pembroke, NH. The bridge carries NH Route 28 over the Suncook River and was originally constructed in 1958. The bridge is a three-span structure, consisting of painted steel beams with a reinforced concrete deck. The bridge is immediately upstream of the Buck Street Dams, which were removed in 2011. The bridge was rehabilitated in the 1990's and included minor deck patch repairs, new bridge rail and curb, and new pavement and membrane.

The deck is in poor condition and the bridge is now on the State's Red List. To extend the life of the structure another 50 to 60 years, VHB completed an engineering analysis and determined a superstructure replacement while retaining the existing substructure as the most appropriate solution. Since the downstream dams were removed, water surface elevations dropped approximately 5 feet at the bridge, exposing deficiencies in the pier stem walls and the slope paving at the southern abutment.

Rehabilitation items include new beams, bearings, reinforced concrete deck, bridge curb and railing, expansion joints, approach slabs, pier collars, and riprap at the southern toe of abutment. Bridge width will match existing conditions, but a slight profile raise is anticipated due to slight variation in the cross-section geometry from the existing conditions.

Pete Walker discussed wetland impact plans, indicating significant features such as the Top of Bank (TOB) and Ordinary High Water (OHW). TOB was mapped within the project area and was determined to connect at the top of slope at abutments on both sides. Pete discussed proposed impacts, both temporary and permanent. Approximately 980 square feet of permanent impacts are anticipated, primarily associated with the extension of a rip-rap slope protecting the southern abutment. A small amount of permanent impacts would result from installation of pier collars to reinforce the existing piers. Temporary impacts are required to construct pier collars and install riprap. The temporary impacts at the southern abutment encompass a large area due to the proximity of the pier to the toe of slope. A water diversion structure, possibly sand bags, is anticipated at the southern abutment and pier 1. Construction access to the southern abutment is anticipated along the western side of the bridge. Temporary impacts to the northern pier are less than the

To:

Samantha Fifield

**Highway Maintenance District 3** 

2 Sawmill Road Gilford, NH 03249

From: NH Natural Heritage Bureau

Re:

Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau of request dated 2/28/2020

NHB File ID: NHB20-0621

Applicant: Highway Maintenance District

Date: 2/28/2020

Location:

Tax Map(s)/Lot(s):

Pittsfield

Project Description:

Replaced an existing collapsed equalizing culvert located under NH Route 107 that drains eastside fire pond to the westside wetlands and raise the elevation of the roadway profile sag to eliminate safety hazards associated with the

icing of ponding water on the roadway.

The NH Natural Heritage database has been checked for records of rare species and exemplary natural communities near the area mapped below. The species considered include those listed as Threatened or Endangered by either the state of New Hampshire or the federal government. We currently have no recorded occurrences for sensitive species near this project area.

A negative result (no record in our database) does not mean that a sensitive species is not present. Our data can only tell you of known occurrences, based on information gathered by qualified biologists and reported to our office. However, many areas have never been surveyed, or have only been surveyed for certain species. An on-site survey would provide better information on what species and communities are indeed present.

This report is valid through 2/27/2021.

## MAP OF PROJECT BOUNDARIES FOR NHB FILE ID: NHB20-0621





# United States Department of the Interior

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New England Ecological Services Field Office 70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 Phone: (603) 223-2541 Fax: (603) 223-0104

http://www.fws.gov/newengland



April 30, 2020

In Reply Refer To:

Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2020-SLI-0844

Event Code: 05E1NE00-2020-E-07034 Project Name: Pittsfield, NH M316-3

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed

project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

## To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

#### Attachment(s):

Official Species List

# **Official Species List**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

New England Ecological Services Field Office 70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 (603) 223-2541

# **Project Summary**

Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2020-SLI-0844

Event Code: 05E1NE00-2020-E-07034

Project Name: Pittsfield, NH M316-3

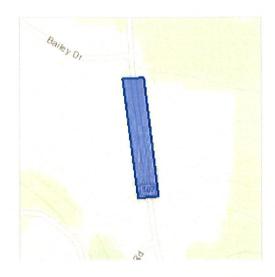
Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: The project proposes to raise the profile of a portion of NH Route 107 1-

foot and to replace a failed culvert within that section.

## **Project Location:**

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/43.32414741106474N71.31470873927427W">https://www.google.com/maps/place/43.32414741106474N71.31470873927427W</a>



Counties: Merrimack, NH

# **Endangered Species Act Species**

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## **Mammals**

NAME STATUS

Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* 

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>

Threatened

#### **Critical habitats**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



# United States Department of the Interior

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New England Ecological Services Field Office 70 Commercial Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301-5094 Phone: (603) 223-2541 Fax: (603) 223-0104

http://www.fws.gov/newengland



May 01, 2020

In Reply Refer To:

Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2020-TA-0844

Event Code: 05E1NE00-2020-E-07077 Project Name: Pittsfield, NH M316-3

Subject: Verification letter for the 'Pittsfield, NH M316-3' project under the January 5, 2016,

Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-eared Bat

and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions.

#### Dear Russell St Pierre:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on May 01, 2020 your effects determination for the 'Pittsfield, NH M316-3' (the Action) using the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) key within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. This IPaC key assists users in determining whether a Federal action is consistent with the activities analyzed in the Service's January 5, 2016, Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO). The PBO addresses activities excepted from "take" prohibitions applicable to the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based upon your IPaC submission, the Action is consistent with activities analyzed in the PBO. The Action may affect the northern long-eared bat; however, any take that may occur as a result of the Action is not prohibited under the ESA Section 4(d) rule adopted for this species at 50 CFR §17.40(o). Unless the Service advises you within 30 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that the PBO satisfies and concludes your responsibilities for this Action under ESA Section 7(a)(2) with respect to the northern long-eared bat.

Please report to our office any changes to the information about the Action that you submitted in IPaC, the results of any bat surveys conducted in the Action area, and any dead, injured, or sick northern long-eared bats that are found during Action implementation. If the Action is not completed within one year of the date of this letter, you must update and resubmit the information required in the IPaC key.

If the Action may affect other federally listed species besides the northern long-eared bat, a proposed species, and/or designated critical habitat, additional consultation between you and this Service office is required. If the Action may disturb bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act is recommended.

[1] Take means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct [ESA Section 3(19)].

## **Action Description**

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

#### 1. Name

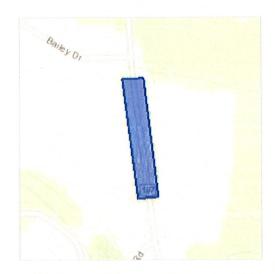
Pittsfield, NH M316-3

#### 2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Pittsfield, NH M316-3':

The project proposes to raise the profile of a portion of NH Route 107 1-foot and to replace a failed culvert within that section.

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps/place/43.32414741106474N71.31470873927427W">https://www.google.com/maps/place/43.32414741106474N71.31470873927427W</a>



#### **Determination Key Result**

This Federal Action may affect the northern long-eared bat in a manner consistent with the description of activities addressed by the Service's PBO dated January 5, 2016. Any taking that may occur incidental to this Action is not prohibited under the final 4(d) rule at 50 CFR §17.40(o). Therefore, the PBO satisfies your responsibilities for this Action under ESA Section 7(a)(2) relative to the northern long-eared bat.

## Determination Key Description: Northern Long-eared Bat 4(d) Rule

This key was last updated in IPaC on May 15, 2017. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This key is intended for actions that may affect the threatened northern long-eared bat.

The purpose of the key for Federal actions is to assist determinations as to whether proposed actions are consistent with those analyzed in the Service's PBO dated January 5, 2016.

Federal actions that may cause prohibited take of northern long-eared bats, affect ESA-listed species other than the northern long-eared bat, or affect any designated critical habitat, require ESA Section 7(a)(2) consultation in addition to the use of this key. Federal actions that may affect species proposed for listing or critical habitat proposed for designation may require a conference under ESA Section 7(a)(4).

# **Determination Key Result**

This project may affect the threatened Northern long-eared bat; therefore, consultation with the Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is required. However, based on the information you provided, this project may rely on the Service's January 5, 2016, *Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions* to fulfill its Section 7(a)(2) consultation obligation.

# **Qualification Interview**

- 1. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency? *Yes*
- 2. Have you determined that the proposed action will have "no effect" on the northern long-eared bat? (If you are unsure select "No")
- 3. Will your activity purposefully **Take** northern long-eared bats? *No*
- 4. Is the project action area located wholly outside the White-nose Syndrome Zone? Automatically answered No
- 5. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your project is near a known hibernaculum or maternity roost tree?

Location information for northern long-eared bat hibernacula is generally kept in state Natural Heritage Inventory databases – the availability of this data varies state-by-state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited. A web page with links to state Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat roost trees and hibernacula is available at <a href="www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/nhisites.html">www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/nhisites.html</a>.

Yes

No

6. Will the action affect a cave or mine where northern long-eared bats are known to hibernate (i.e., hibernaculum) or could it alter the entrance or the environment (physical or other alteration) of a hibernaculum?

No

7. Will the action involve Tree Removal?

No

# **Project Questionnaire**

If the project includes forest conversion, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 1-3.

Estimated total acres of forest conversion:
 If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from April 1 to October 31
 If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from June 1 to July 31

If the project includes timber harvest, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 4-6.

4. Estimated total acres of timber harvest

0

0

- 5. If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from April 1 to October 31  $\,$
- 6. If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from June 1 to July 31  $\sigma$

If the project includes prescribed fire, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 7-9.

7. Estimated total acres of prescribed fire

0

8. If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from April 1 to October 31  $\,$ 

0

9. If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from June 1 to July 31  $\it o$ 

If the project includes new wind turbines, report the megawatts of wind capacity below. Otherwise, type '0' in question 10.

10. What is the estimated wind capacity (in megawatts) of the new turbine(s)?  $\it 0$ 

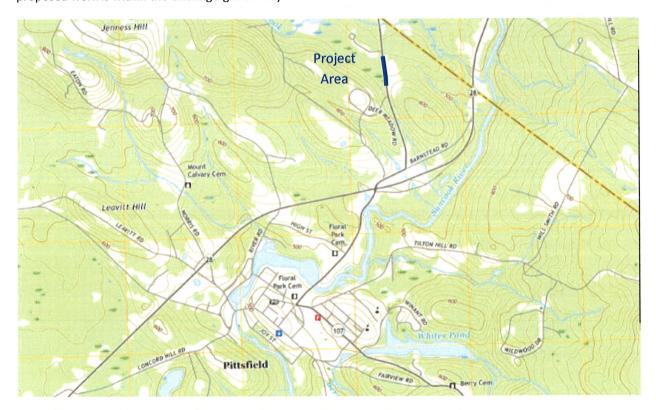
Project: Pittsfield M316-3

#### **Proposed Operations Projects – NHDOT Cultural Resources Review**

For the purpose of compliance with regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's *Procedures for the Protection of Historic Properties* (36 CFR 800), the US Army Corps of Engineers' *Appendix C*, and/or state regulation RSA 227-C:9, *Directive for Cooperation in the Protection of Historic Resources*, the NHDOT Cultural Resources Program has reviewed the proposed project for potential impacts to historic properties.

#### Proposed project: District 3

This project proposes to replace an existing 15" corrugated metal culvert with an 18" reinforced concrete pipe. In addition, the profile of a section of NH Route 107 will be raised to accommodate the larger culvert. (See Exhibits 1 & 2.) The road will be raised 1-foot for approximately 350 feet, and then taper back into the existing profile. (See Exhibit 3.) The culvert acts as an overflow structure for a fire pond located on the adjacent BCEP property, sending excess water westward to a large wetland. Because of its failed condition, seasonally high water tables cause the fire pond to overflow into Route 107, resulting in standing water in the road, potholes, and icing over in winter. All proposed work is within the existing right-of-way.



#### **Above Ground Review**

Known/approximate age of structure:

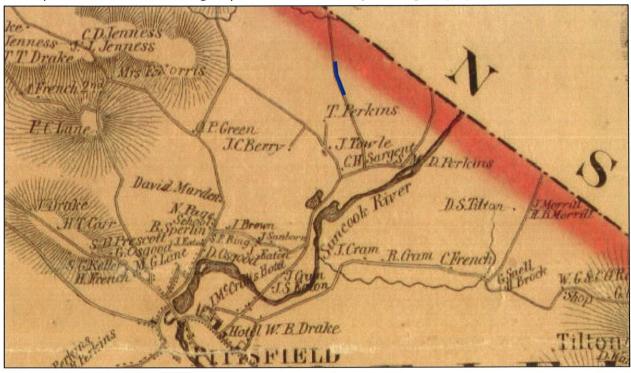
According the wetland permit 2007-01632, the existing 15" metal culvert was installed in 2007. **Cartographic research** was undertaken by Russ St. Pierre.

These maps do not indicate the presence of historical structures in the vicinity of the project area. Structures adjacent to the project site are: the regional transfer station and recycling center on the southeasterly side and a modified modular home on the northwesterly side.

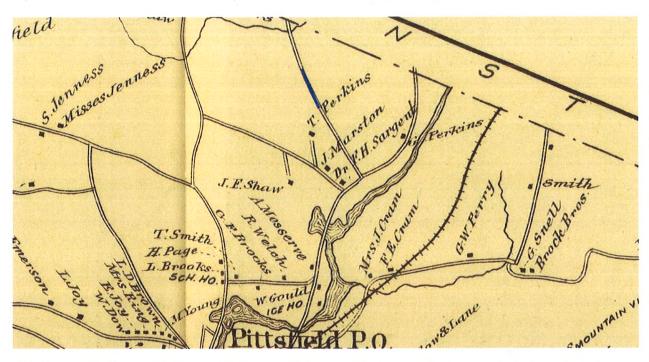
$\times$	No	<b>Potential</b>	to	Cause	Effect,	/No	Concerns
----------	----	------------------	----	-------	---------	-----	----------

☐ Concerns:

A portion of the 1858 Walling Map of Merrimack County showing the project's location in blue.



A portion of the 1892 Hurd & Co. Map of Pittsfield, NH showing the project's location in blue.



Project: Pittsfield M316-3

Portions of the USGS Gilmanton Map showing the project area in blue.

9 1927 195

1919

Pittsfield	Flora Park Cem OLD Rittsfield
Below Ground Review	
Recorded Archaeological site: □Yes ⊠No	
Nearest Recorded Archaeological Site Name & Number:  □ Pre-Contact □ Post-Contact □ Cram's Miner	
Distance from Project Area: 13,605 ft east of project area	
No Potential to Cause Effect/No Concerns     The project lies within the ROW and within a disturbed foot	orint.
☐ Concerns:	
Reviewed by: Speica Charles	4/16/2020
NHDOT Cultural Resources Staff	Date:



# New Hampshire General Permits (GPs) Appendix B - Corps Secondary Impacts Checklist (for inland wetland/waterway fill projects in New Hampshire)

- 1. Attach any explanations to this checklist. Lack of information could delay a Corps permit determination.
- 2. All references to "work" include all work associated with the project construction and operation. Work includes filling, clearing, flooding, draining, excavation, dozing, stumping, etc.
- 3. See GC 5, regarding single and complete projects.
- 4. Contact the Corps at (978) 318-8832 with any questions.

1. Impaired Waters	Yes	No
1.1 Will any work occur within 1 mile upstream in the watershed of an impaired water? See		V
http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/section401/impaired_waters.htm		X
to determine if there is an impaired water in the vicinity of your work area.*		
2. Wetlands	Yes	No
2.1 Are there are streams, brooks, rivers, ponds, or lakes within 200 feet of any proposed work?		<u>X</u>
2.2 Are there proposed impacts to SAS, special wetlands. Applicants may obtain information from the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) DataCheck Tool for information about resources located on the property at <a href="https://www2.des.state.nh.us/nhb_datacheck/">https://www2.des.state.nh.us/nhb_datacheck/</a> . The book <a href="https://www2.des.state.nh.us/nhb_datacheck/">Natural Community Systems of New Hampshire also contains specific information about the natural communities found in NH</a> .		X
2.3 If wetland crossings are proposed, are they adequately designed to maintain hydrology, sediment transport & wildlife passage?	X	
2.4 Would the project remove part or all of a riparian buffer? (Riparian buffers are lands adjacent to streams where vegetation is strongly influenced by the presence of water. They are often thin lines of vegetation containing native grasses, flowers, shrubs and/or trees that line the stream banks. They are also called vegetated buffer zones.)		X
2.5 The overall project site is more than 40 acres?		Х
2.6 What is the area of the previously filled wetlands?		-
2.7 What is the area of the proposed fill in wetlands?		
2.8 What is the % of previously and proposed fill in wetlands to the overall project site?		
3. Wildlife	Yes	No
3.1 Has the NHB & USFWS determined that there are known occurrences of rare species, exemplary natural communities, Federal and State threatened and endangered species and habitat, in the vicinity of the proposed project? (All projects require an NHB ID number & a USFWS IPAC determination.) NHB DataCheck Tool: <a href="https://www2.des.state.nh.us/nhb_datacheck/USFWS IPAC">https://www2.des.state.nh.us/nhb_datacheck/USFWS IPAC</a> website: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/location/index">https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/location/index</a>	x	

<ul> <li>3.2 Would work occur in any area identified as either "Highest Ranked Habitat in N.H." or "Highest Ranked Habitat in Ecological Region"? (These areas are colored magenta and green, respectively, on NH Fish and Game's map, "2010 Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat by Ecological Condition.") Map information can be found at:</li> <li>PDF: www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Wildlife/Wildlife Plan/highest ranking habitat.htm.</li> <li>Data Mapper: www.granit.unh.edu.</li> <li>GIS: www.granit.unh.edu/data/downloadfreedata/category/databycategory.html.</li> </ul>		
3.3 Would the project impact more than 20 acres of an undeveloped land block (upland, wetland/waterway) on the entire project site and/or on an adjoining property(s)?		X
3.4 Does the project propose more than a 10-lot residential subdivision, or a commercial or industrial development?		X
3.5 Are stream crossings designed in accordance with the GC 21?	N/A	
4. Flooding/Floodplain Values	Yes	No
4.1 Is the proposed project within the 100-year floodplain of an adjacent river or stream?		X
4.2 If 4.1 is yes, will compensatory flood storage be provided if the project results in a loss of flood storage?		
5. Historic/Archaeological Resources		
For a minimum, minor or major impact project - a copy of the Request for Project Review (RPR) Form (www.nh.gov/nhdhr/review) with your DES file number shall be sent to the NH Division of Historical Resources as required on Page 11 GC 8(d) of the GP document**	X	

<sup>\*</sup>Although this checklist utilizes state information, its submittal to the Corps is a Federal requirement.

\*\* If your project is not within Federal jurisdiction, coordination with NH DHR is not required under Federal law.

**PHOTO 1:** Looking south on NH Route 107 at the existing culvert location and also showing the overflowing fire pond on the left.

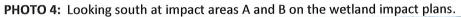


**PHOTO 2:** Looking north on NH Route 107 at the delineator post marking the easterly end of failed culvert, and impact areas K, L, & M on the wetland impact plans.



**PHOTO 3:** Delineator post marking westerly end of failed culvert. This corresponds to impact area C on the wetland impact plans.







**PHOTO 5:** Looking north at impact areas D, E, F, & G on the wetland impact plans.







**PHOTO 7:** Looking north at impact areas F, & G on the wetland impact plans.



PHOTO 8: Looking north at impact area G on the wetland impact plans.



PHOTO 9: Looking north at impact areas H, I, J, K, L, & M on the wetland impact plans.

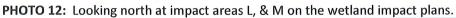






**PHOTO 11:** Looking north at impact areas J, K, L, & M on the wetland impact plans.







#### **CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE**

As a preventative measure, erosion control mechanisms, such as silt fence, compost sock, and hay bales, will be placed parallel to the roadway, between the proposed work area and designated wet areas ahead of all construction activities.

Construction activities will take place during dry conditions, which is primarily in the summer months. The project will be constructed in two steps:

## Step 1 – Replace the existing failed culvert

An 18" diameter reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) will replace the failed metal culvert. A RCP is proposed because this crossing will most likely be submerged at all times and a stronger rated RCP will be installed to due to truck traffic to and from the BCEP facility and the fact that the culvert will be shallowly installed (less than 3-feet of cover over the pipe). Replacement of this culvert will happen, at most, over a two-day period, so a clean water bypass will not be required, as the work will not start unless the weather is forecasted to be clear over several days. The following summarizes the work to be completed in this step:

- 1. Install turbidity curtains along the west and east sides of the roadway approximately at the location of the existing failed culvert.
- 2. Install sand bag cofferdams, to dewater the site, on the west and east sides of the roadway approximately at the location of the failed culvert within the areas contained by the turbidity curtains.
- 3. Place sediment bags along the west and the east sides of the roadway; locate the bags a minimum of 20-feet from any delineated wetland.
- 4. Verify that both turbidity curtains, cofferdams, and sediment bags are placed before dewatering.
- 5. Connect sump pumps to sediment bags and dewater both the east and west sides of the roadway within cofferdam areas.
- 6. On the east side of the roadway, adjacent to the fire pond, reinforce the existing ground adjacent to the pavement with crushed gravel to allow for traffic control during construction of the new culvert.
- 7. Using alternating two-way traffic patterns with flaggers, remove and replace the west side of the culvert and then the east side of the culvert.
- 8. Remove the sump pumps, sand bag cofferdams, and turbidity curtains.

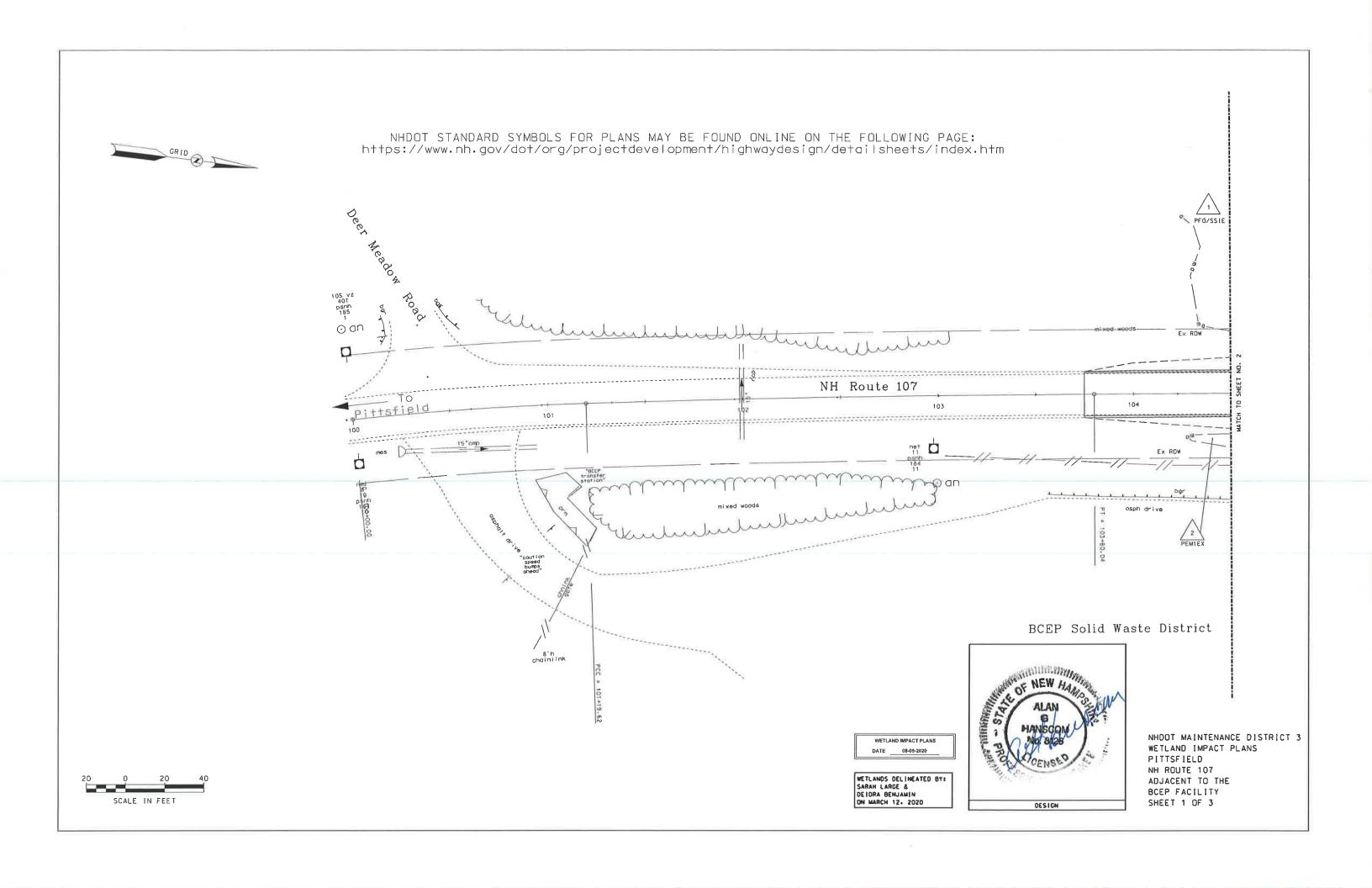
## Step 2 - Roadwork

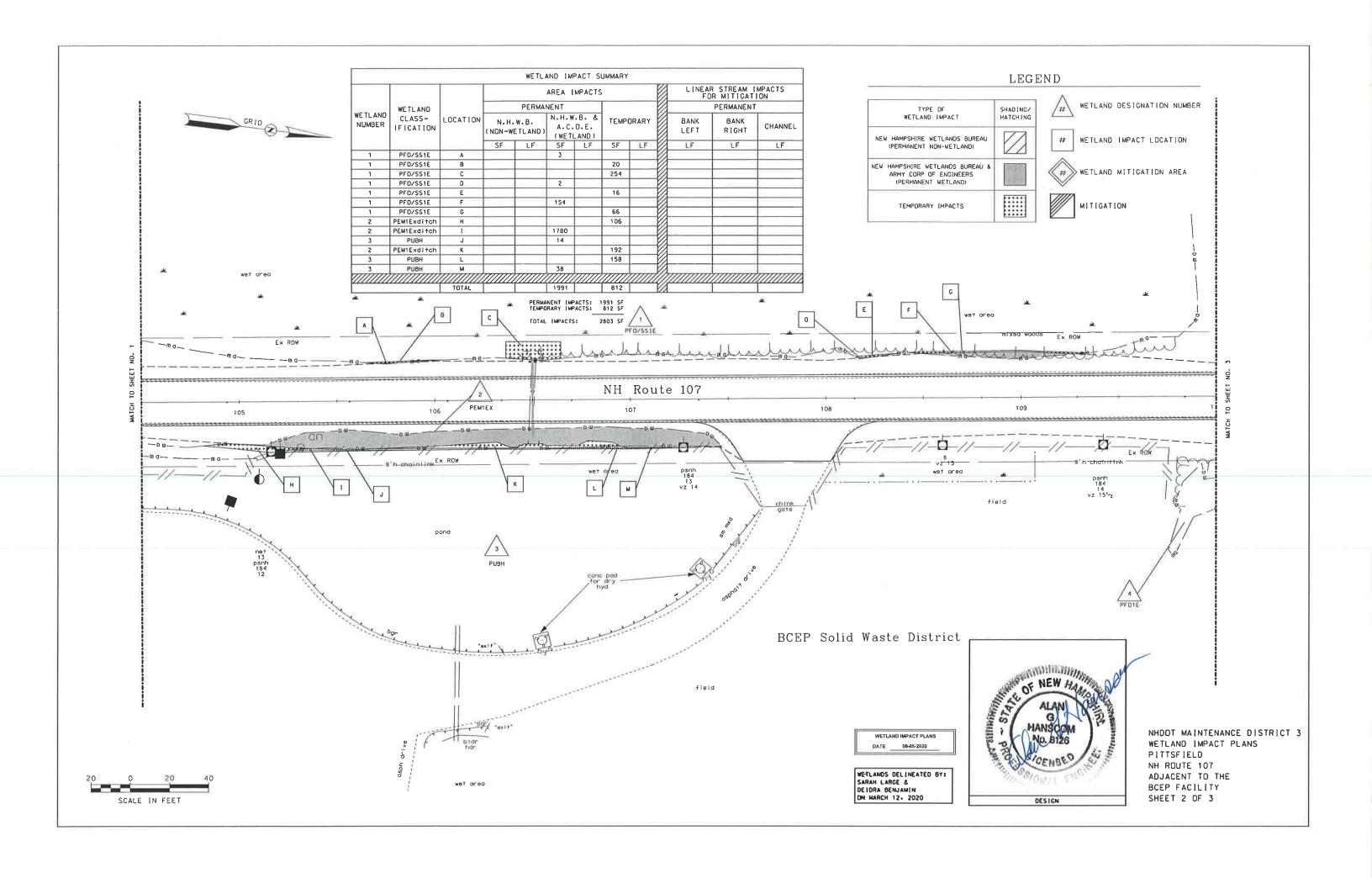
The existing roadway profile within the limits of work is a sag curve. This is reflective of the bowl like topography that exists in this area. Roadway work entails raising the elevation of the existing profile sag by 1 foot. This work will be accomplished by building over the existing roadbed. Granular material will be placed over the existing roadway asphalt surface, and then asphalt pavement will be placed over the granular material. The only locations where excavation of the existing asphalt roadbed will be required is at the limits of work so that the new asphalt roadway surface can be matched in with the existing roadway surface. It is worth noting that

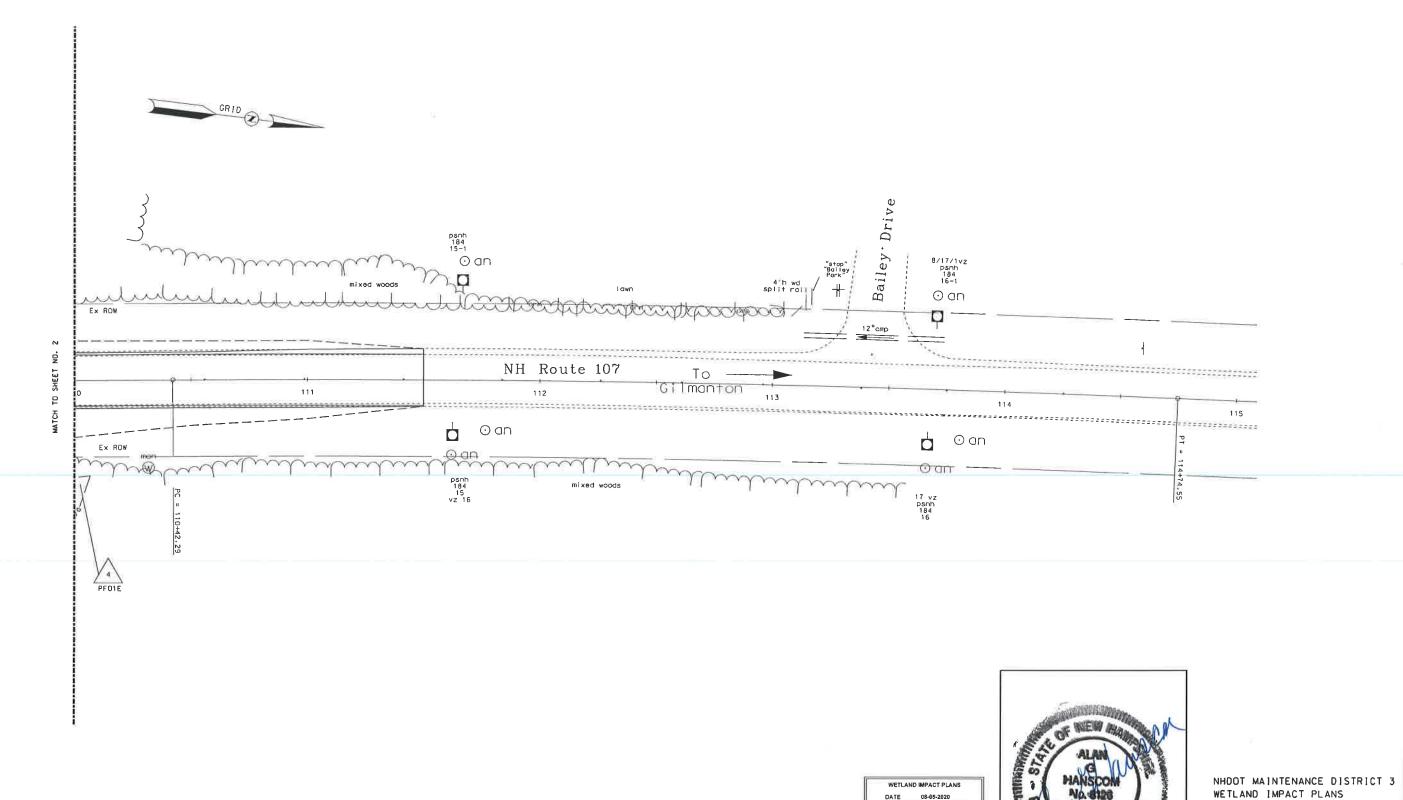
both of the limit of roadway work tie down areas are located away from wet areas. The following summarizes the work to be completed in this step:

- 1. Verify that all erosion control measures, such as compost sock, are in place and functioning properly on both the west and east sides of the roadway before any roadway work begins.
- 2. Using alternating two-way traffic patterns with flaggers, build the granular portion of each side of the roadway (including side slopes), one side at a time.
- 3. Using alternating two-way traffic patterns with flaggers, cold plan each side of the existing roadway located at the limits of work to prepare for asphalt pavement operations.
- 4. Using alternating two-way traffic patterns with flaggers, complete paving operations.
- 5. Backup the new edge of pavement with granular material
- 6. Apply humus and turf establishment with mulch to roadway slopes impacted by construction activities.
- 7. Apply pavement markings to the new roadway.

Once vegetation has been reestablished, all temporary erosion control measures shall be removed.





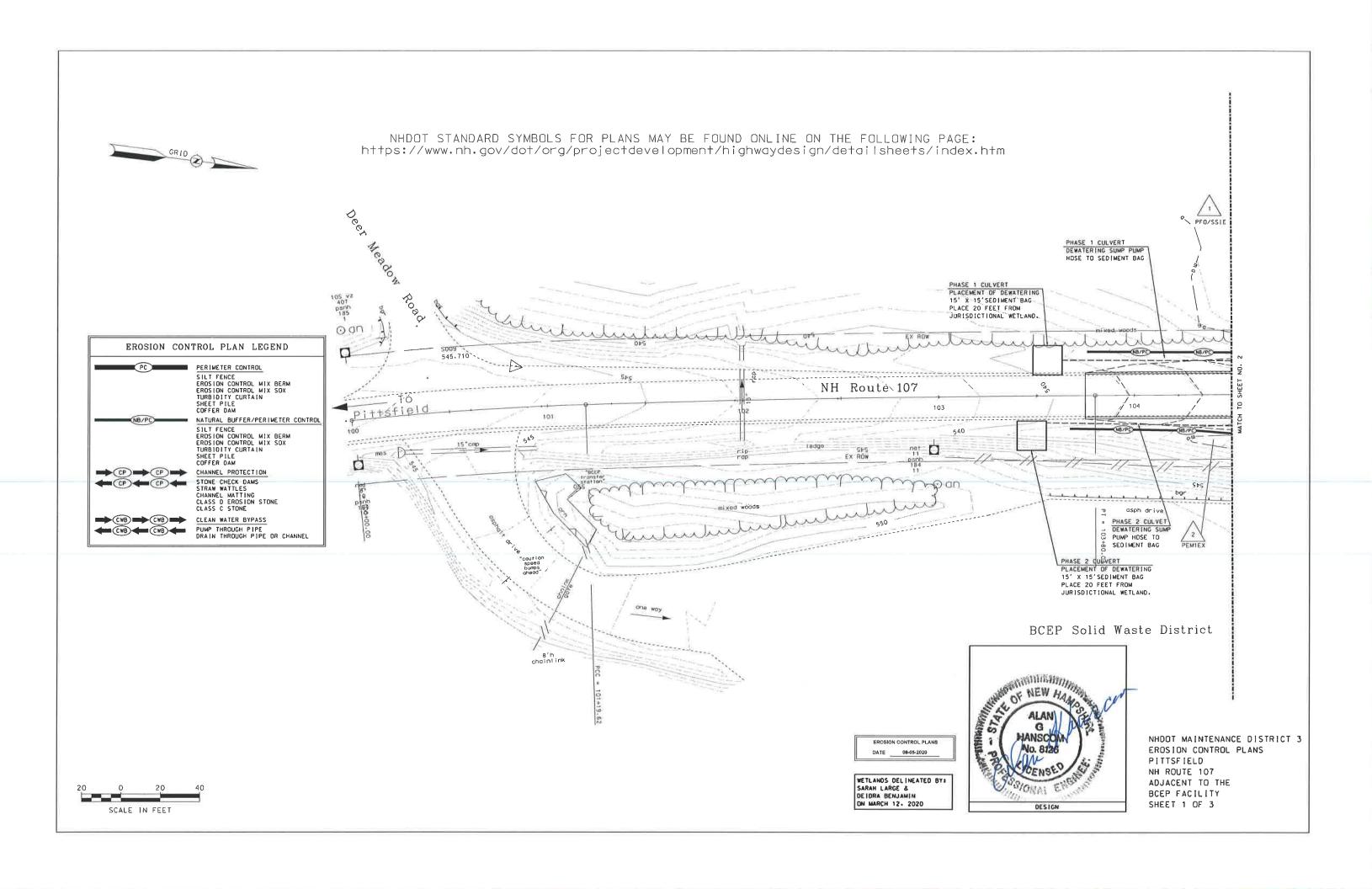


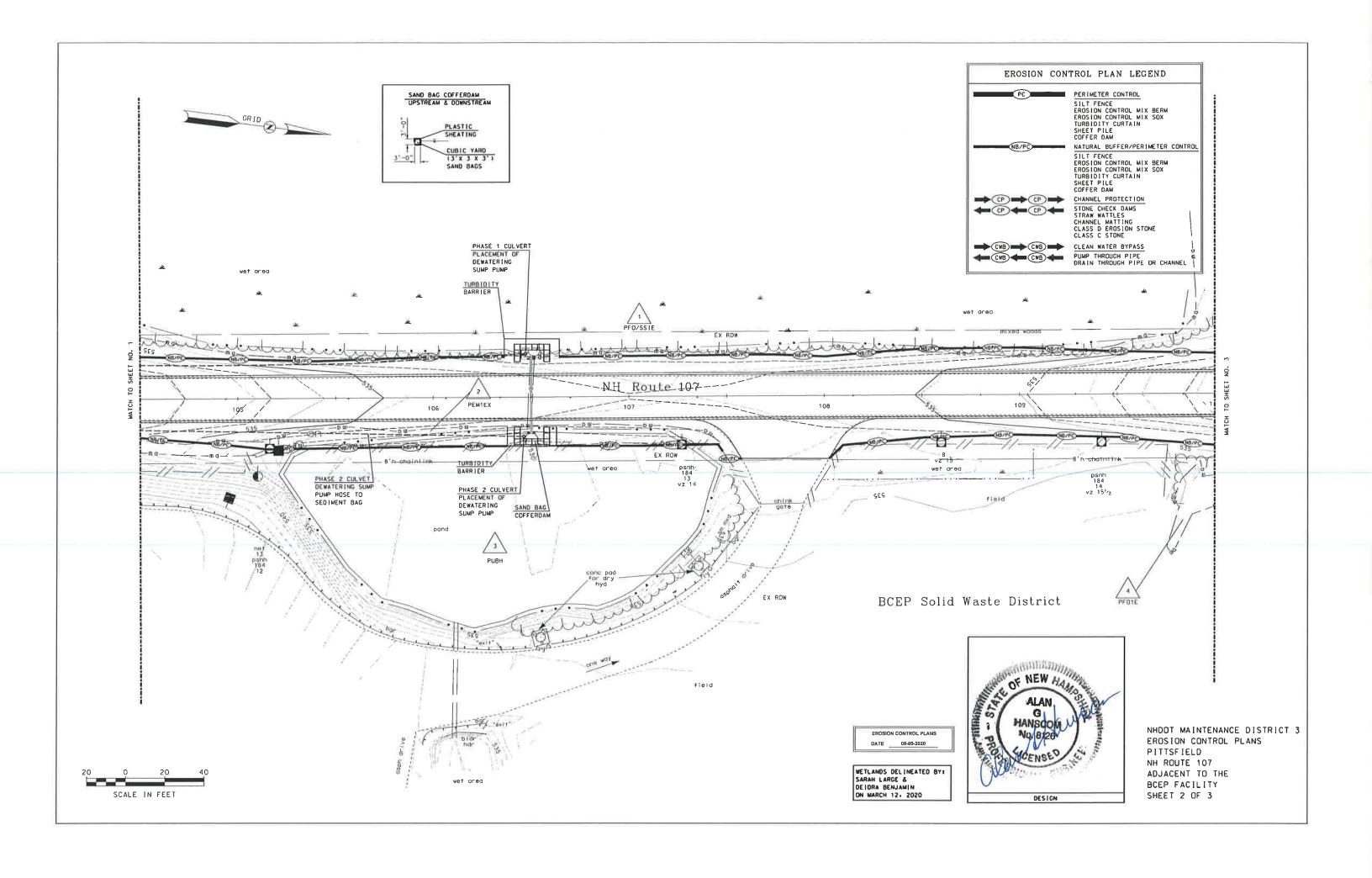
SCALE IN FEET

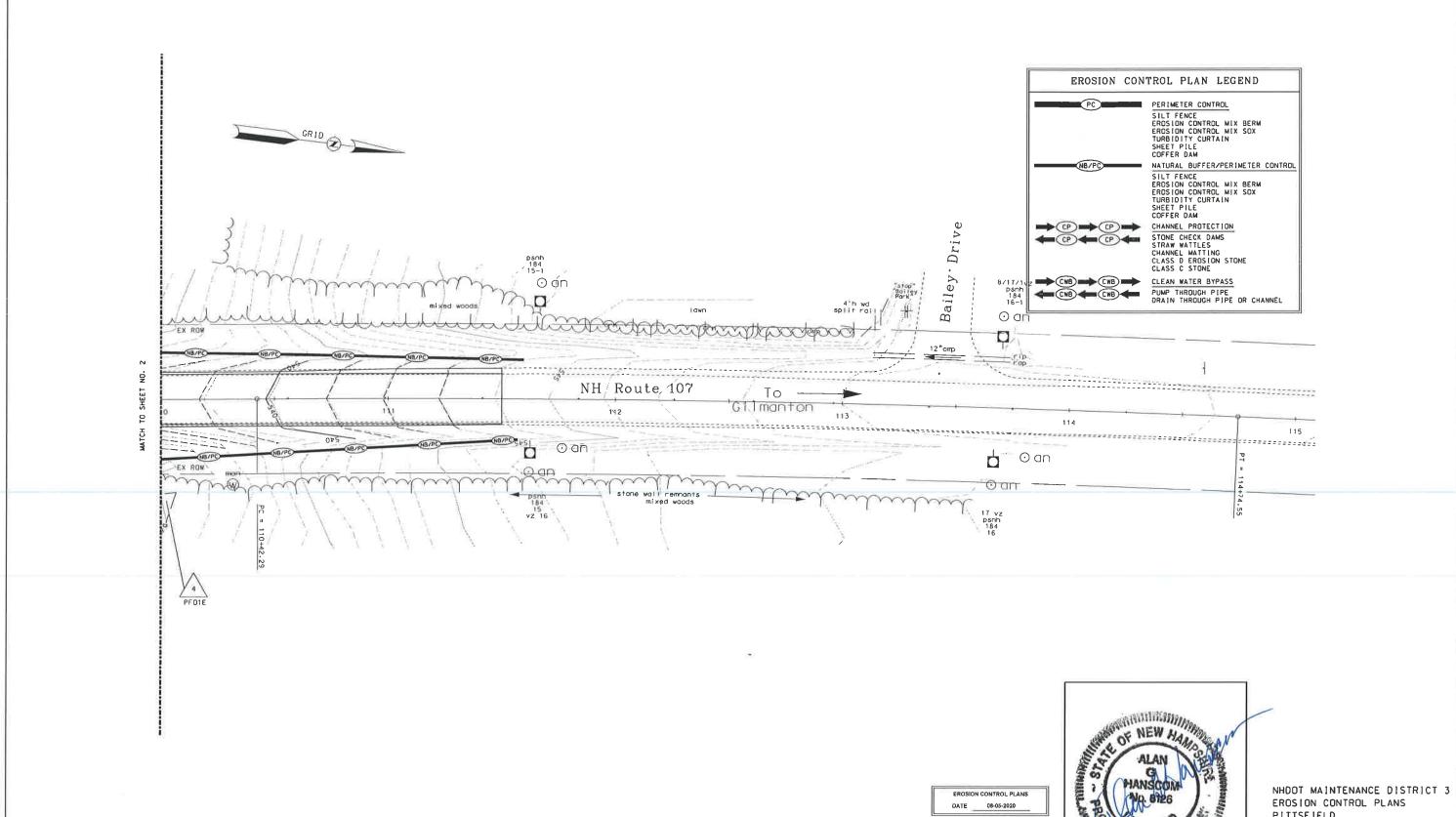
WETLANDS DELINEATED BY: SARAH LARGE & DEIDRA BENJAMIN ON MARCH 12. 2020



WETLAND IMPACT PLANS PITTSFIELD NH ROUTE 107 ADJACENT TO THE BCEP FACILITY SHEET 3 OF 3

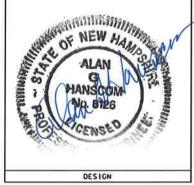






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